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West Virginia Department of Free Schools reports

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Annual report of the State Superintendent of Free Schools, of the State of West Virginia, <1866, 1867, Year 1867, Year 1870, January 1, 1880>

Annual report of the General Superintendent of Public Schools, of the State of West Virginia, <Year 1871, Year 1872>

Biennial report of the State Superintendent of Free Schools of the State of West Virginia, <Years 1875 and 1876, Years 1877 and 1878, Years 1879 and 1880, Years 1881 and 1882, years 1885 and 1886>

Annual Report, <January 1, 1879>

Department of Free Schools, <January 1, 1883>

FIFTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF FREE SCHOOLS,
STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA.

FIFTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT.

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA,
DEPARTMENT OF FREE SCHOOLS,
January 1, 1879.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY, H. M. MATHEWS,
Governor of the State of West Virginia :

SIR:—I have the honor to make to you the fifteenth annual report of the department of Free Schools, presenting the operations of the common schools for the year ending August 31st, 1878. It is compiled, with great care, from the reports required by law, to be made to me by the County Superintendents of the respective counties of the State; but is, of course, affected to some degree by the defects, and incompleteness of those reports. It is gratifying, however, to state that the reports of the County Superintendents for the year of which I make this report have been unusually free from errors, and in all respects, much more satisfactory, than in any former year in the history of our Free Schools. This is a gratifying fact, because but few things contribute more to the satisfaction of the tax-payer, than the assurance that the levy laid upon him for the support of our Free School system, is honestly and faithfully managed and expended. This he can know only from the reports, statistical and financial, which are published from this department.

Every county in the State, has this year, furnished a report, and from these I submit to you the following summary for the school year ending August 31st, 1878, and comparison of the same with that of the year ending August 31st, 1877.

Summary for the School Year Ending August 31, 1878.

SCHOOL ORGANIZATION.

Number of school districts.....	352
Number of sub-districts ..	3,227
Number of district school commissioners.....	1,056
Number of secretaries of boards of education....	352
Number of trustees.....	9,681
Number of city and county superintendents ..	56

FREE SCHOOLS.

Summary of School Statistics for the School Year Ending August 31st, 1878, Compared with those for the School Year Ending August 31, 1877.

Number of teachers granted certificates, 1878.....	3,972
Number of teachers granted certificates, 1877.....	8,794
Increase.....	178
Number of teachers employed, 1878.....	3,747
Number of teachers employed, 1877.....	3,789
Decrease.....	42
Number of male teachers employed, 1878.....	2,822
Number of male teachers employed, 1877.....	2,818
Increase.....	4
Number of female teachers employed, 1878.....	925
Number of female teachers employed, 1877.....	971
Decrease.....	46

Number of Months Taught.

By male teachers, 1878.....	11,360
By male teachers, 1877.....	10,950
Increase.....	410
By female teachers, 1878.....	4,518
By female teachers, 1877.....	4,909
Decrease.....	391
Total number of months taught, 1878.....	15,878
Total number of months taught, 1877..	15,859
Increase.....	19
Average number of months taught, 1878.....	4.38
Average number of months taught, 1877.....	4.13
Increase.....	.25
Children in the State between 6 and 21 years of age, 1878.....	201,237
Children in the State between 6 and 21 years of age, 1877.....	192,606
Increase	8,631
Attended school during the year, 1878.....	130,184
Attended school during the year, 1877.....	125,332
Increase.....	4,852
Average daily attendance of males, 1878.....	47,476
Average daily attendance of males, 1877.....	45,202
Increase.....	2,274
Average daily attendance of females, 1878.....	38,508
Average daily attendance of females, 1877.....	38,227
Increase.....	281
General average attendance, 1878.....	86,768
General average attendance, 1877	83,469
Increase.....	3,298

REPORT OF GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT.

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General average age of pupils, 1878.....	11.05
General average age of pupils, 1877.....	11.12
Decrease.....	.07
Whole number of schools, 1878.....	3,511
Whole number of schools, 1877.....	3,390
Increase.....	121
Common schools, 1878..	3,419
Common schools, 1877.....	3,320
Increase.....	99
Graded schools, 1878.....	82
Graded schools, 1877.....	65
Increase.....	17
High schools, 1878.	10
High schools, 1877.....	5
Increase.....	5

School Houses.

Frame, 1878.....	1,905
Frame, 1877	1,829
Increase.....	76
Stone, 1878.....	11
Stone, 1877.....	7
Increase.....	4
Brick, 1878.....	89
Brick, 1877.	84
Increase..	5
Log, 1878.....	1,292
Log, 1877.....	1,296
Decrease	4
Whole number of school houses, 1878..	3,297
Whole number of school houses, 1877.....	3,216
Increase.....	81
Number built during the year 1878.....	81
Number built during the year 1877.	126
Decrease.....	45
Number commenced but not completed, 1878.....	10
Number commenced but not completed, 1877.....	42
Decrease	32
Value of school grounds, 1878....	\$162,701 60
Value of school grounds, 1877....	178,811 28
Decrease	16,109 68
Value of school houses, 1878	1,421,942 38
Value of school houses, 1877	1,446,446 99
Decrease.....	24,504 61

FREE SCHOOLS.

Value of furniture, 1878.....	91,288 19
Value of furniture, 1877.....	80,326 24
Increase.....	10,961 95
Value of libraries, 1878.....	716 80
Value of libraries, 1877.....	1,193 30
Decrease.....	476 50
Value of apparatus, 1878.....	11,700 24
Value of apparatus, 1877.....	7,821 56
Increase.....	3,878 68
Total value of school property, 1878.....	1,688,349 21
Total value of school property, 1877.....	1,714,599 97
Decrease.....	26,250 76

This "decrease in the total value" of school property is only a different rate of *estimating* the worth of the property. There has been an increase in the number of school houses, the amount of school land, of school furniture, apparatus, and, of course, an increase in the absolute value of school property.

Receipts for the Year Ending August 31st, 1878, Compared with those for the Year Ending August 31st, 1877.

From State School Fund, 1878.....	195,183 75
From State School Fund, 1877.....	192,096 43
Increase.....	3,087 32
From district levies for Teachers' Fund, 1878.....	349,306 48
From district levies for Teachers' Fund, 1877.....	350,412 72
Decrease.....	1,106 24
From Peabody Fund, 1878.....	4,250 00
From Peabody Fund, 1877.....	6,110 00
Decrease.....	1,860 00
From other sources for Teachers' Fund, 1878.....	22,256 42
From other sources for Teachers' Fund, 1877.....	22,704 54
Decrease.....	448 12
Total receipts for Teachers' Fund, including balance on hand at beginning of school year 1878.....	634,361 55
Same for 1877.....	655,559 22
Decrease.....	21,197 67
From levy for Building Fund, 1878.....	189,077 37
From levy for Building Fund, 1877.....	201,751 70
Decrease.....	12,674 33
From other sources for Building Fund, 1878.....	18,989 00
From other sources for Building Fund, 1877.....	7,191 03
Increase.....	11,797 97
Total receipts from all sources for the Building Fund, including balance on hand at the beginning of the school year, 1878.....	236,580 14
Same for 1877.....	265,221 96
Decrease.....	28,641 82

REPORT OF GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT.

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Total receipts from all sources for the Teachers' and Building Funds, including amount on hand at the beginning of the school year, 1878	870,941 69
Same for 1877.. ..	921,307 10
Decrease.	50,465 41

This "Decrease is the result of diminished expenditure for school houses, and general economy in the management. There has been an actual increase in the number of pupils taught, and the time for which the schools have been continued.

Expenditures for the Year Ending August 31st, 1878, Compared with those for Year Ending August 31st, 1877.

Salaries paid to male teachers, 1878	\$ 353,897 19
Salaries paid to male teachers, 1877.	372,437 89
Decrease.....	18,540 70
Salaries paid to female teachers, 1878	150,757 53
Salaries paid to female teachers, 1877	166,835 43
Decrease.....	16,077 90
Total amount paid teachers for year 1878	501,704 61
Total amount paid teachers for year 1877.. ..	539,273 32
Decrease.....	37,568 71
Average salaries white male teachers, 1878....	29 54
Average salaries white male teachers, 1877	37 70
Decrease.....	8 16
Average salaries white female teachers, 1878	26 19
Average salaries white female teachers, 1877	29 22
Decrease.....	3 03
Average salaries colored male teachers, 1878.	26 85
Average salaries colored male teachers, 1877.	30 00
Decrease.. ..	3 15
Average salaries colored female teachers, 1878	23 36
Average salaries colored female teachers, 1877	28 51
Decrease.. ..	5 15
General average salary, 1878....	28 97
General average salary, 1877	31 36
Decrease.	2 39

Expenditures from the Building Fund.

Amount paid for land, 1878	\$ 3,981 29
Amount paid for land, 1877.....	10,147 77
Decrease	6,166 48
Amount paid for building school houses, 1878.	51,652 19
Amount paid for building school houses, 1877.	86,095 12
Decrease.....	34,443 93
Amount paid for rent of school houses, 1878	2,504 74
Amount paid for rent of school houses, 1877	2,342 02
Increase	162 72

FREE SCHOOLS.

Amount paid for repairs, 1878.....	20,672 57
Amount paid for repairs, 1877.....	19,580 86
Increase.....	1,091 71
Amount paid for fuel, 1878.....	26,699 65
Amount paid for fuel, 1877.....	26,460 13
Increase.....	239 52
Amount paid for furniture, 1878.....	6,882 71
Amount paid for furniture, 1877.....	4,355 81
Increase.....	2,526 90
Amount paid for apparatus, 1878 ..	2,093 14
Amount paid for apparatus, 1877.....	2,281 04
Decrease.....	187 90
Amount paid for interest, 1878.....	4,082 12
Amount paid for interest, 1877.....	6,559 18
Decrease.....	2,477 06
Amount commissions paid for collecting, 1878..	12,192 91
Amount commissions paid for collecting, 1877 ..	12,132 52
Increase.....	60 39
Amount paid for enumeration of youth, 1878.....	3,839 04
Amount paid for enumeration of youth, 1877.....	3,699 45
Increase	139 59
Amount paid for making fires and sweeping buildings, 1878	12,105 39
Amount paid for making fires and sweeping buildings, 1877.....	10,916 52
Increase.....	1,188 87
Amount paid Secretaries of Boards of Education, 1878	8,629 52
Amount paid Secretaries of Boards of Education, 1877	9,797 88
Decrease.....	1,158 36
Amount paid for contingencies, 1878.....	16,076 43
Amount paid for contingencies, 1877.....	16,355 62
Decrease.....	279 19
Total expenditures from the Building Fund, for all purposes, year 1878	180,113 70
Total expenditures from the Building Fund, for all purposes, year 1877.	209,740 50
Decrease.....	29,626 80
Total expenditures from Teachers' and Building Fund for year 1878	681,813 31
Total expenditures from Teacher's and Building Fund for year 1877	770,658 86
Decrease.....	88,845 55
Balance reported on hand, for year ending August 31, 1878	149,093 46
Balance reported on hand, for year ending August 31, 1877	160,122 85
Decrease.....	11,029 39

Average District Levy on \$100 Valuation of Property, 1878 and 1877
Compared.

For Teachers' Fund, 1878.....	26.20 cents
For Teachers' Fund, 1877.....	30.40 cents
Decrease.....	4.20 cents

REPORT OF GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT.

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For Building Fund, 1878.....	14.80 cents
For Building Fund, 1877	20.80 cents
Decrease.....	6 00 cents

Cost of Education per Pupil.

Cost for tuition for year ending August 31, 1878, based on the nuemeration..	\$ 2 49
Cost for tuition for year ending August 31, 1877, based on the enumeration.....	2 77
Decrease	.28
Cost for tuition for year ending August 31, 1878, based on the number reported attending school.	3 85
Cost for tuition for year ending August 31, 1877, based on the number reported attending school.....	4 30
Decrease.....	.45
Cost per pupil, for all purposes, for year ending August 31, 1878, based on the number reported in daily average attendance ..	5 78
Cost per pupil, for all purposes, for year ending August 31, 1877, based on the number reported in daily average attendance ..	7 66
Decrease.....	1 88
Cost per pupil for all purposes for 1878, based on the number reported attending school...	5 23
Cost per pupil for all purposes for 1876, based on the number reported attending school...	6 14
Decrease	91
Amount received during the year 1878, for all purposes, for each youth in the State, between the ages of 6 and 21 years, as enumerated	4 18
Amount received during the year 1877, for all purposes, for each youth in the State, between the ages of 6 and 21 years, as enumerated...	4 72
Decrease	.54
Amount expended during the year 1878, for all purposes for each youth in the State, between the ages of 6 and 21 years, as enumerated.....	3 33
Amount expended during the year 1877, for all purposes, for each youth in the State, between the ages of 6 and 21 years, as enumerated ..	3 28
Increase	.05
Cost per pupil, per month, for all purposes, for 1878, based upon the number reported attending school ..	2 20
Cost per pupil, per month, for all purposes, for 1877, based upon the number reported attending school ..	1 25
Increase.....	95

Recapitulation of the Fiscal Statement for the School Year ending August 31st, 1878.

Total assets reported from all sources, during the year 1878, including balance on hand at beginning of school year, 1878	\$ 842,818 65
Total assets reported from all sources, during the year 1877, including balance on hand at beginning of school year, 1877	921,307 10
Decrease.....	78,488 45
Total reported disbursements of both funds during year ending August 31, 1878.....	631,818 51
Total reported disbursements of both funds during year ending August 31, 1877.....	770,653 86
Decrease.....	88,840 55
Reported balance on hand of both funds, 1878 ..	149,098 46
Reported balance on hand of both funds, 1877..	160,122 85
Decrease	11,029 39

The details from which the general results have been computed, will be found in the several Tables hereto affixed; and I refer you to them for much information that is valuable and encouraging to the friends of Free Schools. A few things, I deem it due to this public

interest, to call to your especial notice, and through you, to the consideration of the Legislature.

OUR SCHOOL LAWS.

Though there are some objections occasionally made to our School Law, it is conceded by eminent Educators in other parts of the Union, to be one of the best, taken as a whole, that has been adopted in any State. Still, experience has developed some defects which it will be wise to supply, and a few ambiguities, that ought to be removed. To some of these, allow me to call your attention.

REMOVAL OF OFFICERS.

It will unavoidably happen in every system, as extensive and complex as our Public Schools, that incompetent and unfaithful persons will sometimes be appointed to its service, and there ought to be some provision for their removal. But there is no such provision in our School Law, for several of its more important offices. The Trustees or the Board of Education may remove a teacher, and the Trustees may exclude, for certain reasons, scholars from the schools, but there is no power to remove a member of the Board of Education; a Secretary, or County Superintendent. Experience has demonstrated this to be an injurious omission in the Law; and I suggest the wisdom of an amendment, providing for such removal, by such authority, and for such causes, as the Legislature may deem it wise to prescribe. Habitual intemperance; gross immorality; abuse of official power; or damaging neglect, or violation of prescribed duties ought to be sufficient cause for the removal of any of the officers named. The power to remove a Secretary might be safely given to the Board of Education for his district; that to remove a member of a Board of Education, to the President of the Boards of Education of the several districts of the county, subject to the approval of the County Superintendent, and that to remove a County Superintendent, to the same President, subject to the approval of the State Superintendent. There could scarcely be a possibility of harsh or unjust action under a power so graded; and experience has proved that there have been cases, in which the best interests of the Schools have suffered for the want of its exercise.

CONFLICT OF AUTHORITY.

The Law (sec. 13), makes it the duty of the Trustees to appoint the teachers of their respective schools, but requires the contracts to be approved by the Board of Education; and provides, also, (sec 12), that the said Trustees shall be under the supervision and control of the said Board. In a number of instances the Boards of Education have not only refused to approve contracts made with teachers by Trustees, but have assumed to appoint the teachers themselves.

Again: The Trustees are required, (sec. 15), to take charge of the school houses, and are forbidden, save with the consent of the Board of Education of the District, to "allow said houses to be used for any other than school purposes; except for religious meetings and Sunday

Schools." But in some instances, a Board of Education, or a member thereof, has assumed the right of allowing the school-houses to be used for other purposes than those designated by the Law, and against the decision of the Trustees, who are made immediately responsible for the care of both the houses and their furniture.

Again: The Law, (Sec. 30), makes it the duty of County Superintendents to organize and conduct County or District Institutes; and requires the teachers to attend the same for *eight* days in the year. But Boards of Education are sometimes unfriendly to these Institutes, and will not contract with teachers unless they will agree to carry on their schools, when once begun, continuously, regardless of the fact whether an Institute is held during the term of the school or not; and so the purpose of the Law is hindered. These and other similar conflicts of authority have arisen, and though they are seemingly small matters, they interfere injuriously with the harmonious operation of our school system, and are worthy of a more definite expression in the Law.

EXAMINATIONS AND TEACHERS' CERTIFICATES.

But few things tend more to keep up and advance the standard of qualification in teachers than frequent and well conducted examinations. The provision of the law, establishing County Boards of Examiners, and requiring all teachers who do not hold "Normal Diplomas" or "Professional Certificates," to be examined annually, has, in this respect, worked well. We suggest, however, that the grades of certificates given by the County Boards of Examiners, which now extend to *five* be reduced to *three*; that grade No. 1 shall be given to teachers who answer correctly 87 per cent. of the questions; grade No. 2 to those who answer correctly 77 per cent.; and grade No. 3 to those who answer correctly 67 per cent., and that no teacher be licensed to teach in any county of the State whose standing is below grade No. 3. License, however, should be given to the County Board to allow a per cent., in no case to exceed *ten*, extra of that given on the examination, in consideration of known aptness to teach and an established reputation for intelligence, character and success in the profession. I attach particular importance to this point, since nothing is more clearly established by observation and experience than the fact that the quality of a teacher can not be justly determined by his ability to answer questions at an examination. Persons who obtain and deserve the highest grades on examinations, not unfrequently prove utter failures in the practical work of the school room.

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATES.

The law (Sec. 29) establishes a "State Board of Examiners," composed of the State Superintendent and two professional teachers, to be appointed by the Governor, with power to grant Professional Certificates that shall entitle the holders thereof to be legally admitted to the profession of teacher throughout the State of West Virginia for life. The present members of this Board found a good deal of prejudice existing against certificates of this kind, and a disposition on the

part of District Boards of Education to disparage them below the rank of No. 1 county certificates. The law prescribes no definite rules for the direction of this State Board, in conducting these examinations, and it is probable from the very general complaint that these Professional Certificates have, in many cases, been granted to persons in many respects unworthy of them. The present Board have, therefore, attempted to provide against further objection to this provision of the law by adopting for their own regulation a method of conducting examinations, and a grade of scholarship for Professional Certificates, which will preclude the future admission into this rank of any but teachers of unquestioned scholarship, aptness and experience. They confer two grades of Professional Certificates: *One* for qualification to teach a Primary School; and *one* for qualification to teach a Graded or a High School. For the *first* of these grades, the candidates are required to stand a thorough and satisfactory written examination on all the subjects (seven) embraced in the Primary Schools, and to adduce satisfactory evidence that they have taught with approval for three years. For the *second*, the examination is extended to all the studies embraced in the three years' course of the Normal Schools, and the candidate is required to have had *five* years' experience in teaching. All candidates for either grade of certificates are required to produce satisfactory evidence of their good moral character, literary habits, and general fitness for the work of teaching and of their ability to manage and discipline a school.

While the law provides that Professional Certificates and Normal Diplomas shall entitle the holders to teach throughout the State and for life, without future examination, it does not establish the rank of these certificates, as compared with those given by the County Boards. The result is, that in a number of cases the District Boards of Education, or the County Boards of Examiners, for reasons which I have before stated, have assumed to grade them below a No. 1 Certificate of the County Boards of Examiners. The plain presumption of the law, however, is that they should rank with the highest grade, and their holders be entitled to the corresponding salary; and since the standard of Professional Certificates is now raised to such a degree above that required for a No. 1 County Certificate, and the course of instruction in the Normal Schools has been extended by the present Board of Regents to three years, and the instructions, examinations and training have been made more thorough and rigid, I suggest that this class of licensed teachers should be protected in their professional standing, and that the law be so amended as to rank their Certificates or Diplomas, as in all respects, equal to a No. 1 County Certificate, unless an agreement to the contrary be expressly made with the teacher by a written contract.

The expenses of advertising and holding the County Examinations are not provided for, except as to the *per diem* of the Examiners. All the expenses of these examinations should be paid out of the fees received from the candidates for examination, and, in no case, allowed to exceed these. A compensation should be fixed by law, also, for the services and expenses of the State Board of Examiners, and an appropriation made for its payment.

LENGTH OF SCHOOL MONTH.

Section 30 of the School Law provides that the school month shall

consist of twenty-two days, excluding Saturdays, twenty days of which shall be devoted to teaching and two to attending County Institutes; but the total number of days required to be devoted to Institutes is limited to eight—that is, *two* days for each of the *four* months which the law requires all Primary Schools to be continued. But where the schools are continued more than *four* months, the question has been raised: “what is the measure of the extra months, *twenty* or *twenty-two* days?” I have construed the law to mean *twenty-two* days, but the ambiguity should be removed by a more definite expression of the law.

ENUMERATION OF SCHOOL YOUTH.

Section 19 requires an enumeration of all youth between the ages of six and twenty-one years to be made annually by sub-districts. We suggest that the section be amended so as to require an enumeration to be taken of all youth between the ages of six and sixteen, and between sixteen and twenty-one. This is important for purposes of comparison. Pupils who attend Primary Schools regularly from six to sixteen years, ought, in this time, to complete a course of studies embraced in these schools, and pass out of the list of attendants. Therefore, to compare the number of attendants on the schools with the number of school youth enumerated between the ages of six and twenty-one, produces a false impression as to the proportion of children in the State who neglect the privileges of education which are so liberally provided for them. The general average age of pupils in school for 1877-78 was 11.05 years, which is nearly a mean between six and sixteen. Of the 201,237 youth enumerated between the ages of six and sixteen, perhaps 51,237 were between sixteen and twenty-one, leaving 150,000 between the ages of six and sixteen. Our statistics show that over 130,000 actually attended school during the year, leaving only 20,000 in the whole State between these ages in non-attendance, and making an attendance of 86.6 per cent. of youth between these ages actually in the schools.

But if the comparison be made with 201,237, or all between the ages of six and twenty-one, it will show that over 70,000 did not attend school; or an attendance of only 64.6 per cent. of the whole. Of course, there are some between sixteen and twenty-one, who still remain in the schools, and it will not give a perfectly accurate result to leave them out of the comparison, but it will give a more satisfactory showing to ascertain the proportion by both methods; and, at the same time, present a more accurate and creditable evidence of our interest in education. It will be but little extra trouble to take the enumeration as I suggest.

On this subject, too, there should be an efficient provision for enforcing the law requiring an actual enumeration to be made every year, because it is the basis on which the “general School Fund” is distributed, and should be accurate and reliable. It has been reported that in some instances, no actual enumeration has been made, but that the number has been computed by simply adding an arbitrary per cent. to some previous enumeration.

SETTLEMENTS WITH SHERIFFS.

The settlement of the financial accounts of the Free schools, made with Sheriffs, were not required to be reported to this Department

until the amendment therefor, of the 52nd Sec. of the School Law, enacted by the last Legislature. The provisions of this act are as stringent and coercive as can reasonably be desired, yet it has been to a considerable extent insufficient to effect the required settlement, and we have for many Counties, only the very defective financial reports of County Superintendents to look to for information on this important interest of our Free Schools.

The law provides that where the settlements of the Sheriffs with County Courts had been neglected they should "extend back to the time when the Sheriff became Collector of the District Levies for school purposes." I called special attention to the provisions of the law on this subject, by circulars addressed to the Sheriffs, Judges and Clerks of Courts, Prosecuting Attorneys, County Superintendents, and by other means, insisted upon this observance. The result has been that fourteen counties have failed to make or report any settlement, for the period ending August 31, 1877, and thirty-three counties have similarly failed for the year ending August 31, 1878. The settlements that have been reported to me show, in some instances, large balances, in the hands of Sheriffs, and the reports of County Superintendents, present an aggregate of balances, to the credit of districts, amounting August 31, 1877, to \$160,122.85, and August 31, 1878, to \$149,093.46. Thus it appears that about 30 per cent. of the net proceeds of the annual district levies, is held from year to year, in the hands of Sheriffs. The reports of the County Superintendents of these balances, are not strictly correct, but they ought to fall short of rather than exceed the balances, actually in the hands of Sheriffs. It is proper to state that in many counties these balances are comparatively small, while in a few they are very large. There is no necessity for this. The expenses of running the schools in a given district, can be estimated with so much accuracy that there ought not to be for any one year but a very small balance in excess of expenditures. It is hoped that this matter will be more strictly attended to in the future, and that many counties will be enabled greatly to reduce their next levy by drawing upon funds already to their credit in the hands of Sheriffs. There should be a law requiring all out-going Sheriffs to pay over promptly to some proper receiver, all balances of school money in their hands. I suggest the propriety of having these balances accounted for at once to the Auditor of State, to be charged to him under proper regulations.

COUNTY INSTITUTES.

The Legislature at its last session, provided for a plan of County Institutes, by which the teachers employed in the State were required to attend County or District Institutes, to the extent of two days for each month they were employed in teaching, but not to exceed eight days in the year. The time devoted to Institutes was to be considered as so much of the time they contracted for as teachers, and to be paid for as though it had been employed in teaching. In order to have the execution of this law properly reported, I prepared blanks, or Institute registers, for the County Superintendents, with columns. 1st, for a full list of all the teachers employed in the County; 2d, the number of days each one attended; 3d, the per cent. of diligence of each and 4th, a list of the names of teachers who did not attend at

all. The law provided that teachers who did not attend at all, or only in part, should be charged a *pro rata* of their salary for the time of non-attendance so reported. The Law is thus far compulsory.

We have had but one years experience to test the operation of the law, and it cannot be expected that the result should be a fair exponent of its ultimate value or essential wisdom, still, the result has been highly satisfactory; all the counties in the State, I am informed, held Institutes, though some of them have not returned to me the reports requested. Twenty-nine (29) counties, however, have made detailed reports. The total number of teachers in these counties, is 1867, of these all, but 164, attended Institutes, the greater part of them for the full eight days required by the law, some for a longer time; and with a general average for all, of 6.4 per cent.

The work of these Institutes was new to many County Superintendents; the duty of attending them distasteful to many of the teachers; and the cost of conducting them, and their interference in some cases, with the current term of the schools, causes of objections to many citizens. These were all formidable obstacles in the way of success, yet there is an overwhelming expression of sentiment on the part of County Superintendents, as to the value of the instruction they afford to the teachers, and their usefulness in elevating the standard of teaching, securing unity of method, and exciting emulation and personal respect among the teachers.

As this provision for Institutes was entirely new to our State, there was a very general call for information on the subject, and for advice as to their proper organization and management.

I prepared and circulated, therefore, the following

SUGGESTIONS TO COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS.

To secure uniformity and efficiency in conducting Teachers' Institutes, provided for in the thirtieth section of the School Law, the following suggestions are respectfully submitted to the County Superintendents:

The Institutes in the respective counties are to be organized and conducted by the County Superintendent in person, or by some competent teacher whom he shall appoint in his stead. They are to be attended by all the teachers in the county for eight days, where the schools are taught for four months, and where the number of months taught is less than four, then for as many as two days for every such month.

The time and places for holding these Institutes are left to the determination of the County Superintendent. In appointing them, however, he should consult convenience and economy, and arrange them for the best interests of the teachers and the schools. With these limitations, it would be best to have but one Institute in a county, with a continuous session of eight days, or perhaps two sessions of four days each, and at convenient intervals; but when the teachers would be put to unwarranted inconvenience or expense in reaching one place, two, or even a greater number of places with sessions of eight or four days each, may be designated, even to one in each school district; but the larger number of teachers who can be brought together for Institute teaching and training, the better. If many Institutes are held in one county, it will be impracticable for

the County Superintendent to conduct them in person, or to procure competent substitutes in his stead, and they will be liable to degenerate into an idle formality. This should be specially guarded against, and the County Superintendent should make it his supreme aim not only to secure a full attendance of teachers, but to provide for the most efficient organization and conduct of this important element in our school system. One-day Institutes will prove utterly worthless; in no case ought the sessions to be less than four days each.

The Institutes should be organized as a school; every class that is taught in a primary school should be formed, and recitations regularly heard in each, just as in the daily routine of a primary school. The object should be both to illustrate the methods of teaching and to impart instruction on the subject matter to be taught. The idea should be to train the teachers in the art of teaching,—to exemplify to them how to handle the school, and every class in the school. Lectures, discussions, &c., should be provided for the evenings.

The conductor of an Institute must make and keep an accurate roll of all teachers in the county, by districts, with a daily record of attendance, &c., according to the blank form which will be furnished for this purpose by the State Superintendent. He will also give to each teacher a certificate in the form furnished, showing the number of full days he has attended and for which he is entitled to compensation from the Board of his district. Boards of Education cannot require teachers to teach more than twenty days to the month for each of the four months for which he is required by law to attend Institutes. In the monthly settlements, the teachers may be paid the full month's salary, for all but the last month, from which the Board should in all cases withhold the *pro rata* required by law for non-attendance which may be reported against any teacher by the County Superintendent. If a teacher should make up his "non-attendance" by attending an Institute after his school has closed, but within and for the same school year, the *pro rata* of his salary which had been withheld, should, upon the presentation of the required certificate to his Board, be refunded to him.

Teachers must attend Institutes in the county in which they teach, and at the places designated by the County Superintendent. Attendance in another county is not recognized by the law.

The County Superintendent should give due and special notice to every teacher in his county, of the times and places of Institutes, require punctual and regular attendance for the full time of every day, and note the percentage of diligence in the teachers respectively. The discipline, order and instruction of an Institute should be as rigid, regular and thorough as in a school, both to secure the benefits of the Institute and as an example in method.

County Superintendents should be particular not to appoint Institutes to be held on Saturdays, because teachers cannot be lawfully required to attend them on that day. It is especially excepted from the twenty-two days which are required from the teacher for every month, and of which two are set apart for Institutes. Saturday Institutes would be, at best, but a frivolous evasion of the high duty which the provision of the law imposes, alike on County Superintendents and teachers.

Where schools are continued for more than four months, the question has been raised whether the extra months shall consist of twenty or twenty-two days. The law is not explicit, but as the continuance of schools for more than four months in the year is not required by the general law, but is left entirely to the Boards of Education and the voters of the districts, it is doubtless competent for them to decide also the term of the month. We strongly urge, however, for the sake of uniformity and to suit our School Registers, that the number of days to be devoted to teaching be fixed at twenty to the month, for the extra months also, even should it be necessary to make a *pro rata* reduction in the monthly compensation.

We earnestly urge upon the County Superintendents the propriety and importance of impressing upon the teachers the advantages of these Institutes and the moral and legal obligation they are under faithfully and diligently to attend them. Teachers should remember that the State proposes to pay them for these eight days at an average of \$1.50 per day, and that this expedient for their instruction and improvement in the knowledge and art of their profession is at a cost of \$50,000 a year to the people whom they serve. Such an expression of the public concern for a higher grade of competency in our teachers ought to excite an earnest interest, not only in every officer of the public schools, but in the people generally, to give hearty and vigilant encouragement to make the provision as effective as possible for the interests of education.

I am gratified to report that there was a very general and earnest effort on the part of the County Superintendents, to carry out these suggestions, and to make this liberal provision for the improvement of the teachers as effective as possible. It is believed that no State in the Union has provided so liberally for the improvement of *all the primary teachers*, employed in the schools, and that no want in connection with the successful working of our school system is of greater practical importance than that which this provision is intended to provide. No amount of time or money expended on common school education can give high or satisfactory results so long as the teachers are themselves untaught on the subjects committed to their instruction and unskilled in the impartation of knowledge, and the management and discipline of a school.

Where these Institutes are conducted by experienced and competent instructors, it is generally conceded that no method has been devised which so speedily and specifically supplies these requisites. It is here, however, that our law in some measure fails to meet all the requirements of an effective system of Institutes. It provides liberally and wisely for securing the attendance of the teachers, but it failed to provide skilled instructors to conduct the Institutes. We have felt the importance of securing trained teachers for the children, but have not reflected that it is equally important to provide good instructors for the teachers. We need good teachers for the schools, and *first-class instructors* for the teachers.

Many of our County Superintendents were not elected with reference to this duty, and have felt and acknowledged their want of experience in the discharge of it. They desire assistance and, would it not be wise, to appropriate annually out of the General School

Fund, a small sum to employ such assistance, and to authorize the State Superintendent to prepare a definite programme of exercises to be adopted throughout the State?

For the comparatively small sum of two or three thousand dollars a year, we could engage competent aid for every county in the State, and render more than doubly effective the liberal provision already made for this purpose. The "General School Fund" is required by the Constitution to be expended annually for the "support of Free Schools," and such an appropriation would in an eminent degree contribute to this end.

TIME OF HOLDING INSTITUTES.

It is of the highest importance to the success of any system that its several parts should be arranged so as not to interfere with, but rather to support and give greater efficiency to each other. As the law now stands, the County Superintendents appoint the time of holding the Institutes, and the Boards of Education appoint the time of opening the schools. The consequence is that the schools have frequently to be suspended to allow the teachers to attend the Institutes, and not unfrequently the Institutes are not held until the schools for the year are closed, and so the benefit of the Institute, for that year at least, is lost. This, when we consider that many of the teachers annually drop out of the profession, is evidently an important defect in the working of the system. We suggest that all County Institutes should be organized by a general law, to be held before the opening of the schools, and that a definite period be prescribed for holding the Institutes and opening the schools. It would, perhaps, suit all parts of our State to require that all Institutes should be held in the months of July and August, and not later than the end of the second week in September, next preceding the opening of the schools, and that the schools should in no case be opened earlier than the beginning of the third week of September.

It should also be provided that no teachers should be employed who had not attended the Institutes next preceding the term of their service, unless it could be satisfactorily shown that they had been prevented by sickness. When the State incurs so much expense to make the teacher effective in his work, it is right to enforce the observance of the law by all legitimate means. If teachers are not willing to improve themselves, when the State not only provides full instruction, but also compensation for their time, they ought not to be employed in her service.

PEABODY INSTITUTES.

During the last scholastic year, the Trustees of the "Peabody Fund," committed to my disposal \$650.00, for holding Institutes. We attempted, as far as practicable, to make these Institutes models for the instructors of County Institutes, and distributed them so as to make them geographically accessible to as many Teachers and Superintendents as practicable. Thirteen were organized, of five days each, and held at the following places: Berkeley Springs, Morgan county; Burning Springs, Wirt county; Charleston, Kanawha county; Kingwood, Preston county; Logan C. H.; Middlebourne, Tyler county; Moundsville, Marshall county; Nicholas, C. H.; Petersburg, Grant county;

Philippi, Barbour county; Princeton, Mercer county, and Raleigh, C. H. I engaged some of the most skillful and experienced teachers of the State to conduct them, and a large number of the most earnest instructors of our schools attended them. They were also generally sustained by the ministers of the gospel, and other friends of education, in the localities where they were held, and, we are assured contributed much, not only to the instruction of the teachers, but to excite and widen the popular interest in our schools. The Trustees of the Peabody Fund have been so well pleased with these results, that Dr. Sears, General Agent, authorizes me to use \$1,000.00 for their continuance. It would add greatly to the efficiency of this Fund, if these institutes could be recognized by the law, and the time spent in them be allowed to the credit of teachers as a part of the eight days required to be given to County Institutes, and I respectfully suggest that this be done.

PEABODY AID TO SCHOOLS.

In this connection I mention also, as worthy of public acknowledgment, that the additional sum of \$4,250.00 was given to West Virginia from the Peabody Fund, to aid schools of a higher grade, in extending their time and improving and enlarging their course of studies. The object was to foster and establish as far as practicable, model schools of higher instruction than the ordinary Primary School. With this sum aid was extended to schools at the following places:

Bethany, Brooke County; Burning Springs, Wirt County; Charleston, Kanawha County; Charlestown, Jefferson County; Clarksburg, Harrison County; Guyandotte, Cabell County; Lewisburg, Greenbrier County; Mason City, Mason County; Martinsburg, Berkeley County; Moundsville, Marshall County; New Cumberland, Hancock County; Portland, Preston County; Ravenswood, Jackson County; St. Albans, Kanawha County; St. Mary's, Pleasants County; and Wellsburg, Brooke County;—in all sixteen schools. The aid received by West Virginia, from this fund has been annually reduced, because of the increasing demand made upon it by other States, not heretofore awarded a due proportion, and this current year, our *pro rata*, is cut down to Three Thousand Dollars, with instructions to restrict its distribution to a few schools of the higher order, for grade and attendance.

GRADED PRIMARY INSTRUCTION.

All education should be conducted with method—a rational progress, towards a definite end, is the secret of success in every undertaking. But, in our Primary Schools, while we have a prescribed set of subjects and Text Book, there is no prescribed order in which the subjects shall be studied, nor arrangement of the pupils, in classes, nor designation of the time to be given to them respectively. There ought to be a beginning—a regular order of progress, and end to the Primary course of instruction. This has been felt by some of our best County Superintendents, and Superintendent Wade, of Monongalia County, has succeeded, in introducing a method, in the schools of his county, that has worked with admirable success. But so long as it is left to each teacher to do as he lists, with respect to the organization and conduct of school work, we can have but little system or uniformity in it. I suggest that authority be given to prescribe a

regular course of Primary instruction, to be generally followed in the schools, with provision for the examination and graduation of all pupils, who satisfactorily complete it.

TEXT BOOKS.

The subject of text books is one that is exciting the attention of many States. Our law prescribes a uniform set of books to be used throughout the State. In 1865, the Legislature passed an act, (ch. 59, p. 56, Acts 1865), giving to the State Superintendent, power to prescribe a series of class books, to be used in the free schools throughout the State, this was re-enacted in 1866, (ch. 74, §52, p. 71), and again in 1867, (ch. 98, § 55, p. 129). The school law as adapted in the Code, (1868, ch. 45. § 55, p. 307-8). prescribed a series of class books, in detail, and this was subsequently adopted in 1873, with but few changes, and it is further made the duty of the County Superintendent, to see that no others are introduced, with a penalty to a teacher who shall do so. But there is no provision made for making any change in this series, in whole or in part, or for exercising any oversight over the matter of their publication and sale, whether as to quality or matter, or price. There is much complaint in our State, both as to the price of the class books, which the law requires, under penalty, to be used, and as to the quality of the material and style of binding—but there is no authority short of the Legislature, itself, to look after these matters, or to demand redress.

I suggest that attention be called with emphasis, to the anomalous character of our legislation on this subject, which secures a monopoly of a large business with no sort of restraint upon the monopolists, or protection of the people, against their free power to do as they please in the matter.

Several plans have been suggested for relief from this monopoly. Some favor the repeal of the present law, on this subject, and the submission of the whole matter to a County Board, in each county, others to the Boards of Education of the several districts. But there are serious objections to both of these plans:

1. The law provides that, under certain circumstances, schools may be formed out of parts of two or more districts, of the same or of different counties. In this case, the text books of the two counties or districts being different, there would be inconvenience and additional expense to the children of one part, caused by the necessity of purchasing new books.

2. Citizens of the State, often move from one county to another, or from one district to another, and so would be exposed to the necessity of purchasing new books. This is especially so with the poorer class of our citizens, who are least able to afford it.

3. The Boards of Education would be exposed to the constant solicitation of plausible and persistent agents, and being elected only for two years, would be especially liable to be persuaded to make a change.

4. They are seldom persons at all capable of judging of the fitness of books, for class books, and would be likely to select the cheapest, rather than the best.

5. It is very desirable to have a uniform and equal course of studies adopted in all our Free Schools, and to maintain a systematic grade of studies throughout the State. This cannot be done where each

county or district is allowed to choose the class books and prescribe the studies.

6. The frequent changes which such a system, would almost invariably lead to, would be injurious to the pupils, embarrassing often to the teachers, and particularly expensive to the people.

We, therefore, recommend that we adhere to our present rule of requiring a uniform series of class books to be used in the Free Schools throughout the State.

But we earnestly suggest the appointment of a State Commission on Text Books, whose duty it shall be to take the control of the whole subject of text books, with power to prescribe and contract for the books to be used, with the prices at which they shall be furnished to the pupils throughout the State, and with the responsibility of providing that the contract shall be faithfully carried out in every particular. The importance of this subject will be seen, when it is considered that more than one hundred and thirty thousand pupils, annually attend our schools, and that at the lowest estimate for each pupil there must be a very large amount of money annually expended on text books. To protect our citizens against extravagant charges for this necessary expense of education, and to secure to them a class of text books, not only of the highest quality as to matter, but also of the best material and execution of binding and printing, are matters surely worthy of some judicious and affective provision upon the part of the Legislature.

NORMAL SCHOOLS.

The Normal Schools of the State are not an organic part of our Free School system. They are placed under the management of a Board of Regents, consisting of the Executive Officers of the State and three others; who are appointed by Your Excellency, one from each Congressional district in the State. But as the State Superintendent of Free Schools is made *ex-officio*, president of this Board, I may here present you with a brief general statement as to their operations and condition. Anterior to the last session of our Legislature, the State support of these six schools had been so precarious, that they had fallen into a very feeble and languishing condition. But the last Legislature provided that each of the Normal Schools should be paid at the rate of \$3.50 per month, for each normal student in actual attendance, with the provision, however, that no one school should be paid a sum per annum succeeding \$2,000.00. They were allowed, also, in addition to this State compensation for normal pupils; to charge tuition fees for the non-normal pupils that might attend, and a contingent fee from all matriculates. Under this arrangement the schools were reopened and have been greatly revived and are doing well.

During the year ending August 31, 1877, there was an average attendance of non-paying normal pupils of 2147 months at a total cost to the State of \$7,108.50; and during the year ending August 31, 1878, an average attendance of 3,304 months, at a total cost to the State of \$10,062.00. The limit of the appropriation was \$12,000.00 per annum, and the earnings of the schools fell short of this limit, the first of these two years by \$4,891.50, and the latter by only \$1,938.00.

The Normal students are all pledged, as a condition of receiving the free tuition of the schools, to teach in the Free Schools of the State for at least one year, and it is the purpose of many of them to make teaching their profession.

The regents, in 1877, extended the course of instruction in these schools to three years, and elevated and made uniform in all the schools the text books and the standard of scholarship necessary to graduation.

The school building at Fairmont needs some repairs, and the greatly increased attendance made it necessary for the Executive Committee to fit up with seats and suitable furniture, a large hall that had, before, been vacant. We call your attention therefore, especially to that part of the report of the regents which recommends the appropriation of \$1,000 00 for these purposes, as well as to that, which recommends an appropriation of \$500 00 for fitting up and seating additional recitation rooms in the Concord school, in Mercer County.

CONCLUSION.

We have just reason to be gratified with the general result of our school-work. There has been a steady and most encouraging advance in every quality of excellence. The attendance of pupils has steadily increased. The character and qualifications of the teachers have been much improved, much prejudice has been overcome, and the general interest of the public in the system has been deepened and confirmed—the number of school houses added to—their capacity in many places, enlarged, and their styles fashioned after the best models furnished in our most advanced architecture. Greater system and uniformity in method are everywhere seen in the organization and conduct of the schools, and a constant process is going on in grading, and extending the courses of study. Systematic economy characterizes the management of the Boards of Education—and, gradually, a very competent class of school officers is growing up, under the influence and tuition of frequent and protracted service.

The great want in the practical working of our school system, is an experienced and efficient supply of the local officers. The success of the schools depends largely upon the County Superintendent; the District Boards of Education, and the Trustees. Let the people be careful to elect and continue in office, wise and prudent boards, experienced and faithful County Superintendents, and these again provide discreet Trustees, who will see that none but the best teachers are employed, and that a sufficiently just compensation is offered in order to attract and secure a higher order of talent and scholarship, to the profession, and the course of our schools will be still onward, and the good fruits many more manifest, year by year. Under the blessing and guidance of a generous Providence, our growing young State has promise of a rapid and enlightened development, in all that constitutes the honor, the happiness, and the dignity of a people, provided only, we steadfastly adhere to our system, already so prosperously inaugurated, of free, liberal and universal education.

W. K. PENDLETON,

State Superintendent of Free Schools.

STATISTICAL TABLES

FOR THE

SCHOOL YEAR ENDING AUG. 31, 1878.

EXPLANATION OF STATISTICAL TABLES.

TABLE A—Showing the receipts and disbursements of the Teachers' Fund.

TABLE B—Showing the receipts and disbursements of the Building Fund.

TABLE C—Showing the number and value of school houses, &c.

TABLE D—Enumeration of youth between the ages of six and twenty-one years, and number attending school.

TABLE E—Sub-districts, schools, and number and grade of certificates.

TABLE F—Number of teachers and number of months taught.

TABLE G—Age of pupils; number studying; number of visits from officers.

TABLE H—Amount of district levies; amount of delinquent lists; total receipts and expenditures; balance on hand; apportionment and average cost per pupil.

TABLE I—Showing the enumeration of youth; the apportionment of State School Fund for the school year commencing September 1st, 1877; and September 1st, 1878; and the amount of salaries paid county superintendents.

TABLE A.

Showing the receipts and Disbursements of the Teachers' Fund.

COUNTIES.	Balance on hand at beginning of school yr.	RECEIPTS FOR TEACHERS' FUND.					SALARIES OF TEACHERS.									
		From State.	From Levy.	From Peabody Fund.	From other sources.	Total.	AGGREGATE SALARIES.				Total.	AVERAGE SALARIES.				Total gen'l average.
							WHITE.		COLORED.			WHITE.		COLORED.		
							Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.		Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	
Barbour.....	\$ 1,099 97	\$ 4,113 11	\$ 4,504 23	\$ 525 27	\$ 10,242 58	\$ 6,534 36	\$ 1,831 93	\$ 204 00	\$ 101 64	\$ 8,671 93	26 25	26 31	25 50	26 00	26 29	
Berkeley.....	1,471 82	3,346 15	8,600 78	422 41	13,841 16	7,675 88	2,274 00	1,067 35	343 00	11,360 23	30 65	33 09	26 33	24 50	29 86	
Boone.....	246 00	1,590 13	2,743 81		4,579 94	3,243 47	873 23	78 00		4,194 70	29 15	25 55	23 00		28 06	
Braxton.....	211 87	2,715 03	4,296 23	204 86	7,427 99	2,696 64	1,380 25	60 00		4,136 89	28 21	18 16	20 00		23 95	
Brooke.....	1,152 70	1,831 23	5,869 35	\$ 550 00	207 73	10,611 01	4,541 42	3,686 35		8,227 77	38 75	34 16			37 00	
Cabell.....	1,238 14	3,401 80	8,261 66	200 00	219 58	13,321 18	7,695 33	3,446 94	330 00	11,472 27	34 71	34 37	30 00		34 39	
Calhoun.....	859 69	1,571 81	2,035 54		121 71	4,589 02	2,979 34	687 99		3,667 33	25 25	21 49			24 44	
Clay.....	1,436 67	1,014 51	1,231 19		546 74	4,229 11	1,762 68	170 76		1,943 44	23 66	17 58			20 62	
Doddridge.....	642 41	3,130 21	5,579 98		202 17	9,554 77	5,003 00	2,570 00	50 00	7,623 00	31 00	26 40		16 16	24 52	
Fayette.....	*	2,774 80	5,362 16		381 44	8,518 40	5,840 79	1,147 00	196 00	7,183 79	29 64	29 01	28 00		28 88	
Gilmer.....	1,624 88	2,085 52	3,433 36		424 98	7,568 74	3,430 21	1,305 00		4,735 21	27 68	24 76			24 79	
Grant.....	582 50	1,662 20	3,906 56		13 69	6,164 95	3,985 39	1,023 23	225 24	5,233 86	33 14	29 22	22 75		31 25	
Greenbrier.....	3,145 13	3,682 91	7,860 70	200 00	469 30	15,358 04	8,583 46	2,307 03	1,015 40	12,060 89	29 76	30 25	24 68	25 00	28 74	
Hampshire.....	726 60	2,732 28	5,151 29		72 51	8,682 68	5,463 64	955 10	185 00	6,603 75	24 83	30 62	20 00		25 40	
Hancock.....	461 71	1,632 11	4,706 22	250 00	27 10	7,077 15	3,148 64	1,266 09		5,414 73	34 03	32 47			33 34	
Hardy.....	409 90	2,025 76	3,411 59		6 42	5,853 67	3,390 05	1,178 95	256 00	4,925 00	23 40	25 92	21 33	25 00	23 98	
Harrison.....	4,862 63	6,437 23	12,730 31	400 00	1,307 79	25,737 96	15,611 51	4,560 39	476 95	20,648 85	33 20	34 38	32 50		32 92	
Jackson.....	242 09	5,101 51	8,551 57	200 00	950 34	15,045 51	10,080 89	2,871 15	48 00	13,048 04	31 32	27 80	16 00	16 00	22 78	
Jefferson.....	1,420 78	4,459 83	10,770 29	200 00		16,850 90	9,280 65	3,037 76	2,633 57	15,584 55	34 98	37 78	30 85	36 25	38 72	
Kanawha.....	2,321 23	9,618 04	21,156 20	700 00	1,685 44	35,480 91	18,696 87	6,899 22	2,701 70	28,379 91	36 89	29 37	32 17	13 50	31 98	
Lewis.....	411 64	3,829 08	7,263 80	200 00		11,704 52	8,813 51	1,895 20	180 00	10,888 71	29 82	28 42	30 00		30 56	
Lincoln.....	1,774 70	2,450 48	3,714 93			7,940 11	4,856 80	1,033 00		5,889 80	31 53	31 33			31 44	
Logan.....	45 16	2,131 71	323 78			2,500 65									27 00	
Marion.....	2,010 68	5,713 37	7,160 37		250 03	15,139 45	9,616 84	3,841 00		13,457 84	30 29	28 15			28 93	
Marshall.....	1,809 13	5,802 57	5,640 72	250 00	830 60	14,333 02	8,259 33	2,352 23	90 00	10,701 56	36 22	33 13		30 00	35 43	
Mason.....	2,799 78	7,320 29	16,262 43	300 00	871 19	27,553 69	15,419 19	7,491 91	477 20	23,403 30	33 01	31 25	29 76	35 00	36 68	
McDowell.....		699 40	339 45			1,038 85	841 60			841 60	20 66				20 66	
Mercer.....		2,198 05	2,841 41		29 48	5,068 94	3,260 43	434 50	105 00	3,799 93	26 30	24 77	14 00		25 53	
Mineral.....		2,099 04	6,515 61	250 00	363 34	9,027 99	4,626 00	2,563 01	260 00	7,609 69	33 00	30 52	30 00	20 00	33 07	

*No settlement.

†Three Districts omitted.

‡Three Districts only reported.

TABLE A—Continued.

COUNTIES.	Balance on hand at beginning of school yr.	RECEIPTS FOR TEACHERS' FUND.					SALARIES OF TEACHERS.									
		From State.	From Levy.	From Peabody Fund.	From other sources.	Total.	AGGREGATE SALARIES.				Total.	AVERAGE SALARIES.				
							WHITE.		COLORED.			WHITE.		COLORED.		Total gen'l average.
							Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.		Male.	Female.			
Monongalia.....	\$ 1,045 26	\$ 4,721 17	\$ 7,004 94	\$ 48	\$ 12,771 85	\$ 8,041 83	\$ 3,318 98	\$ 175 00	\$ 11,535 84	35 28	29 68	35 00	30 25			
Monroe	407 14	3,314 47	7,736 15	50 35	11,508 11	8,041 09	956 00	527 94	9,525 03	30 66	29 87	27 80	30 40			
Morgan	762 83	1,594 21	2,992 11	38 97	5,388 12	3,664 04	105 64	116 00	3,885 67	30 56	28 00	16 50	29 12			
Nicholas	356 07	2,094 94	1,688 64	586 66	4,726 31	4,297 30	132 48	16 40	4,446 18	21 98	20 33	18 00	21 82			
Ohio	1,459 58	1,929 71	6,358 83	127 60	9,875 72	6,068 98	3,300 26	115 52	9,484 76	39 95	34 22	23 00	37 32			
Pendleton	454 13	2,405 36	4,960 84	8 37	7,828 70	6,888 47	248 00	25 00	7,161 47	25 70	20 50		25 70			
Pleasants	654 55	1,608 37	2,936 50	\$150 00	67 82	5,417 14	3,640 00	1,194 59	4,834 59	31 42	30 70		31 22			
Pocahontas	177 42	1,446 16	3,353 09	8 90	4,985 57	3,574 75	1,179 24	150 00	4,903 99	26 42	22 88	21 25	25 81			
Preston	3,175 17	6,014 72	9,751 57	150 00	506 22	19,597 68	14,402 64	2,771 65	17,274 74	33 03	31 34	20 00	32 18			
Putnam	2946 79	3,449 54	5,355 26		72 45	11,824 04	7,104 00	2,024 00	9,300 00	34 97	31 14	24 59	34 51			
Raleigh	732 44	2,263 04	2,611 84		358 80	5,966 12	4,164 51	647 00	4,811 51	19 18	18 45		19 00			
Randolph		2,191 00	2,582 05		107 75	4,880 80	3,680 15	1,152 18	4,832 33	24 97	23 80		24 68			
Ritchie	3634 43	3,796 06	5,837 67		1,242 88	14,511 04	7 651 65	2,739 48	10,391 13	25 77	26 81		26 29			
Roane.....	582 02	3,699 86	4,763 61		18 00	9,063 49	6,967 87	1,371 40	8,354 27	23 22	24 60	7 50	27 34			
Summers ..	*	2,131 01	3,566 58		55 19	5,697 59	4,242 40	974 96	5,620 11	23 46	24 33	21 06	24 22			
Taylor	1692 65	3,429 43	5,734 88		41 06	10,898 02	5,985 00	2,778 55	8,797 92	35 24	31 79	20 00	33 97			
Tucker	1,233 47	814 76	1,428 03		161 60	3,637 86	1,844 40	141 00	1,985 40	21 50	20 00		21 00			
Tyler	281 17	3,500 57	5,071 66		10 30	8,863 70	6,510 16	1,297 46	7,807 62	29 40	28 91		29 37			
Upshur	375 18	3,116 92	5,575 97		433 75	9,501 82	6,083 47	1,884 58	7,968 05	27 15	24 79		26 56			
Wayne		4,405 92	6,360 70			10,766 62	6,828 00	2,738 00	9,670 00							
Webster ..		794 28	895 50		223 41	1,913 23	1,065 25	405 00	1,470 25	20 25	21 37		20 81			
Wetzel	1,228 76	4,149 49	6 090 45			11,468 70	6,360 00	1,518 00	7,878 00	28 40	26 63		28 03			
Wirt	2,760 67	1,996 86	3,463 36	200 00	638 50	9,259 39	4,154 10	1,737 57	5,891 67	35 65	31 44		34 30			
Wood	2,507 62	7,460 46	21,309 96		4,754 95	36,032 99	11,866 53	11,275 82	24,117 35	36 24	37 32	60 00	36 51			
Wyoming	127 75	1,124 86	971 34		435 12	2,659 07	2,006 16		2,034 16	20 02		14 00	19 80			
Wheeling..	6,211 65	9,687 77	36,533 85			52,465 95	7,280 00	30,944 00	39,504 00	75 00	37 79	60 00	42 57			
Martinsburg		2,023 58	4,145 52	500 00	1,174 17	7,797 83	2,150 00	4,720 00	7,520 00	53 75	34 76	50 00	39 57			
Totals	\$66,358 36	\$195,183 75	\$349,306 48	\$4,250 00	\$22,256 42	\$634,361 55	\$340,840 80	\$147,649 07	\$13,056 39	\$3,108 46	\$501,704 61	29 54	26 19	26 85	23 36	28 97

*No settlement.

FREE SCHOOLS.

TABLE

Showing the Receipts and

COUNTIES.	RECEIPTS FOR THE BUILDING FUND.				EXPENDITURES			
	Balance on hand at beginning of school year.	From Levy for Building Fund.	From other sources for Building Fund.	Total.	For Land.	For Houses.	For Rent.	For Repairs.
Barbour.....	\$ 2,030 51	2,286 53		\$ 4,317 04	\$ 80 00	\$ 1,209 87		\$ 475 89
Berkeley.....	361 37	3,524 08	84 23	3,969 68		631 17	193 87	593 12
Boone.....	218 24	1,275 24		1,493 48		300 00	20 00	235 65
Braxton.....	177 27	3,754 84	75 96	4,008 07	67 00	1,141 50		127 91
Brooke.....	512 61	1,867 07	382 31	2,761 99	110 70		25 00	275 60
Cabell.....	931 09	6,392 05	1,286 68	8,609 82	548 25	2,968 03	75 50	285 59
Calhoun.....	58 29	1,636 11	102 02	1,814 70		408 50		217 23
Clay.....	1,348 20	976 88	453 32	2,778 40		633 00		153 29
Doddridge.....	923 10	3,202 75	99 23	4,225 08	17 50	1,566 81	20 50	504 32
Fayette.....		1,339 36	329 36	1,668 72	5 00	374 00	21 00	224 69
Gilmer.....	542 55	2,871 32	8 80	3,422 17	10 00	1,557 25		53 80
Grant.....	750 96	1,098 78		1,849 74		250 00	2 00	61 96
Greenbrier.....	2,819 24	4,334 64	812 85	7,966 78	333 00	3,408 15	114 35	152 77
Hampshire.....	476 32	2,278 68	58	2,755 58		562 00	8 00	574 71
Hancock.....		3,450 56		3,450 56		1,037 70		931 14
Hardy.....	603 77	1,364 24	2 61	1,970 62	25 00	908 50	15 00	75 90
Harrison.....	3,653 99	4,648 02	478 40	8,775 41	15 00	1,083 00	51 33	807 71
Jackson.....	251 23	5,278 47	236 15	5,765 85	10 00	1,357 65	10 00	506 84
Jefferson.....	2,016 52	4,406 70		6,423 22	145 00	3,096 35	312 04	308 86
Kanawha.....	1,042 91	8,537 38	2,177 66	11,757 95	101 00	2,913 54	240 25	2,311 96
Lewis.....	617 44	3,239 87		3,857 31	41 00	921 12	49 00	275 79
Lincoln.....	907 95	1,729 54		2,637 49	24 00	439 00	5 00	224 25
†Logan.....	36 02	259 02		295 04			8 00	110 35
Marion.....	1,234 64	6,653 17	126 74	8,014 55	112 25	1,399 20	150 00	611 65
Marshall.....	1,717 01	6,885 63	53 89	8,682 03	50 00	781 08	9 00	800 63
Mason.....	1,414 44	9,908 03	216 70	11,539 17	588 00	6,189 05	455 95	741 56
Mercer.....		265 27		265 27		41 85		
Mineral.....		1,625 85		1,625 85	10 00	278 04	45 00	8 12
Monongalia.....		3,104 85	133 66	3,248 51	70 00	496 48	59 40	400 58
Monroe.....	659 25	3,278 05	36	3,937 66		84 25	25 00	475 71
Morgan.....	181 12	2,398 86		2,579 98	38 50	462 50	12 50	251 83
†McDowell.....	1,840 31	3,374 53	53 93	5,268 77	700 00	1,730 85	50 00	71 41
Nicholas.....	177 63	1,064 71	441 27	1,683 61		344 50	70 00	110 07
Ohio.....	753 33	3,821 08		4,574 61			15 00	755 85
Pendleton.....	139 83	1,056 89	30 00	1,226 72	13 50	90 00	11 00	161 60
Pleasants.....	250 48	2,610 52	167 65	3,028 65	100 00	1,363 80		199 04
Pocahontas.....	241 22	1,881 61		2,122 83	70 00	540 00		104 45
Preston.....	1,094 97	3,632 37	1,413 86	1,141 20		2,300 49	6 00	534 24
Putnam.....	833 75	3,619 18	126 51	4,579 44	250 00	1,404 00	10 00	455 64
Raleigh.....	726 02	1,986 00	171 82	2,883 84		1,306 62		199 52
Randolph.....		1,902 94	238 25	2,141 19	30 00	801 75	7 00	250 32
Ritchie.....	1,657 41	5,245 54	329 47	7,232 42	145 00	3,486 81	14 20	330 30
Roane.....	621 43	3,112 16		3,733 59		1,103 00		150 75
Summers.....		2,071 51		2,071 51	5 00	1,414 60	57 20	61 91
Taylor.....	452 50	4,206 33	80 44	4,803 02	40 85	1,500 00	9 00	262 06
Tucker.....	446 08	1,122 71	224 83	1,798 62	10 50	466 00	1 00	43 35
Tyler.....	331 21	3,118 80		3,450 01		640 00	22 00	353 99
Upshur.....	354 24	2,649 94	240 00	3,006 58	45 75	946 10		172 76
Wayne.....		6,603 03		6,603 03	61 09	1,992 00	43 00	175 57
Webster.....		1,019 20		1,019 20		200 00	19 65	12 60
Wetzel.....	325 51	5,417 33	302 21	5,955 05	5 00	425 00	50 00	147 90
Wirt.....	1,238 35	2,217 84	251 65	3,707 84		150 00		130 80
Wood.....	1,261 51	10,436 92	7,784 35	19,482 78	75 00	921 25	41 00	1,548 49
Wyoming.....		725 75		725 75	20 00	182 33		23 30
Wheeling.....		3,653 38		2,885 21			200 00	1,109 67
Martinsburg...	264 99	4,660 26	71 75	4,997 00				396 97
Total.....	\$38,492 00	\$189,077 87	\$18,989 00	\$236,560 14	\$3,981 29	\$51,652 19	\$2,504 74	\$20,672 57

*No settlement. †Report very imperfect.

B.

Expenditures of the Building Fund.

OF THE BUILDING FUND.

For Furniture.	For Apparatus.	For Interest.	For Enumeration of Youth.	For Commission.	For Fuel.	For Sweeping, building and making fires.	For Contingencies.	Paid Secretary of Board of Education.	Total amount of orders issued on Building Fund.
\$ 11 88	\$ 39 66	\$ 114 39	\$ 82 90	\$ 69 87	\$ 452 04	\$ 254 40	\$ 56 85	\$ 185 00	\$ 2,981 70
44 15			90 50	319 74	614 59	119 64	300 97	150 00	3,057 55
3 60	10 00		39 45	121 94	233 55		25 70	70 00	1,059 89
6 44	12 00	14 02	52 85	77 25	527 59		186 27	330 05	4,012 88
210 81	5 80	80 00	34 00	69 52	273 13	324 00	303 00	60 00	1,771 06
97 22		1,076 00	85 50	294 35	570 75	74 25	292 66	122 50	6,490 60
15 75	50 00	13 50	34 50	20 28	258 96	20 00	52 75	125 00	1,201 55
16 75			35 75	31 80	173 63		80 16	100 00	1,224 38
345 75	43 70	17 42	63 50	316 85	590 05	62 44	43 77	170 00	3,762 61
79 82	1 00		49 00	147 03	444 76	48 45	351 09	72 00	1,817 84
140 55	13 75	7 10	26 00	108 21	337 38	96 00	82 02	103 00	2,475 88
21 88			57 75	32 91	247 30		83 97	100 00	857 77
158 89	18 00	5 00	51 50	319 54	494 44	77 25	216 63	220 39	5,569 91
123 67	5 59	6 01	59 50	222 95	303 03	7 00	82 08	152 50	2,107 04
157 62		13 88	28 50	134 50	321 95	166 40	50 27	115 00	2,956 96
110 94			35 50	143 85	232 63		81 30	129 58	1,758 20
28 63	157 35		119 75	460 59	799 68	835 60	363 76	250 00	4,972 40
114 95			91 00	118 77	875 17	112 05	121 44	120 00	8,432 87
420 52		14 87	102 00	218 93	530 33	164 43	462 02	138 33	5,913 68
524 53		139 50	223 75	292 20	1,472 22	713 60	1,229 89	300 00	10,460 44
			72 00	220 58	576 14	387 08		150 00	2,692 71
76 00	30 00		58 80	46 98	209 25		40 00	190 00	1,348 28
			71 00	129 76	118 25		1 00	65 00	503 36
216 98	135 00	20 35	64 75	168 93	744 43	844 55	935 46	190 00	5,593 55
53 85	120 00	253 25	91 50	387 96	821 85	263 76	2,114 05	195 00	5,042 13
741 20	17 47	16 30	136 15	439 38	950 21	833 13	314 26	225 00	11,647 66
			24 00	256 27			13 75	85 00	420 87
		43	40 00	90 15			173 31	115 00	770 05
257 24	7 55		65 00	282 32	313 90	94 32	209 18	105 00	2,369 70
1 50			72 00	291 57	645 77	435 64	467 67	209 75	2,658 86
44 76			92 00	230 74	657 32	31 50	268 16	140 00	2,409 81
32 86			46 00	632 05	248 34	116 50	535 10	135 00	4,298 11
21 70	3 10		71 12	33 37	728 85		48 97	145 00	1,018 68
30 00	153 00	485 35	35 00	194 63	435 56	491 21	375 03	100 00	3,070 68
7 90	14 75		53 57	55 05	144 63		68 23	190 00	810 22
16 75	150 50	17 26	189 25	13 80	263 92	75 31	147 06	185 00	2,821 69
196 83	11 50		56 30	58 73	309 95		82 54	120 00	1,350 30
183 82		148 77	116 75	241 77	782 57	205 25	145 06	207 50	4,871 72
144 00		15 00	67 50	431 40	521 63	223 10	384 10	175 00	4,081 42
6 55	103 60		51 50	116 60	164 50		73 51	175 00	2,197 40
105 03	1 80	1 26	44 00	57 06	269 47	72 62	121 86	160 00	1,912 17
54 00	233 20	3 80	22 00	94 07	596 31	236 00	122 19	125 00	5,462 88
251 75	66 98	2 00	77 00	92 25	118 05	15 37	62 75	130 00	2,069 90
	38 36		43 00	70 55	122 92		63 64	125 00	2,002 18
303 40	223 35	940 11	57 50	297 16	363 72	216 90	802 20	135 00	5,160 19
	41 55		14 50	28 53	117 75		3 50	68 00	794 68
210 82			79 70	187 10	696 60	306 50	88 08	125 00	2,711 79
86 94	1 00	56 69	47 25	93 27	399 72	160 94	90 92	133 95	2,235 29
76 00	1 00		113 95	216 06	471 85		184 63	150 00	3,485 15
			35 00	16 74	82 72	2 00	513 84	85 00	967 55
233 75		43 00	98 00	73 29	678 39	311 00	146 61	150 00	2,361 92
59 20	94 00		30 75	215 10	398 12	175 41	28 30	162 00	1,443 68
269 35	381 33		146 00	665 76	1,529 36	819 75	1,523 92	240 00	8,161 21
	2 25		48 00	15 50	63 70		26 41	85 00	466 49
391 44		84 86	100 00	1,101 55	2,506 78	1,976 64	1,100 00	600 00	9,170 94
285 69		492 00	25 00	139 80	595 89	535 40	284 55	100 00	2,855 30
\$6,882 71	\$2,093 14	\$4,082 12	\$3,839 04	\$12,192 91	\$26,699 65	\$12,105 39	\$16,076 43	\$8,639 52	\$180,113 70

† This amount paid out of School Fund, except \$91.33.

TABLE C.

Showing the Number and Value of School Houses and Other Property.

COUNTIES.	SCHOOL HOUSES.					VALUE OF SCHOOL HOUSES AND OTHER PROPERTY.						
	Frame.	Brick.	Stone.	Log.	Whole number.	Aggregate value.	Value of Furniture.	Value of Apparatus.	No. vols. in Library.	Value of Library.	Value of Land.	Total value of all school property.
Barbour.....	65			15	80	\$ 38,400 00	\$ 35 00				\$ 1,075 00	\$ 39,510 00
Berkeley.....	35	11	3	2	51	20,180 00	1,575 00	\$ 468 00			1,411 00	24,019 00
Boone.....	1			42	43	6,100 00	100 00	80 00			100 00	6,380 00
Braxton.....	27			36	63	19,498 80		165 00	39	\$ 162 50	289 00	20,486 30
Brooke.....	21	4			25	34,800 00	1,718 00	224 50	500	500 00	3,360 00	39,909 50
Cabell.....	29	3		27	59	22,416 00	2,245 00				4,564 00	29,225 00
Calhoun.....	7			29	36	9,020 20	840 00	363 00			274 00	10,497 00
Clay.....	3			24	27	5,961 00	432 00				169 00	6,562 00
Doddridge.....	51			12	63	23,350 00	1,973 00	160 00			1,836 00	27,819 00
Fayette.....	17			53	70	19,975 00	1,178 00	49 50	7		544 50	21,747 00
Gilmer.....	12			43	55	13,482 00	1,078 83				450 00	15,010 83
Grant.....	20	4		18	42	13,531 00	995 03	30 00			710 00	15,266 00
Greenbrier.....	37	2	1	24	74	25,055 00	1,866 82	18 00			2,085 00	28,590 82
Hampshire.....	38	1		23	62	18,178 50	352 00	30 59			731 50	19,142 59
Hancock.....	19	3			22	19,450 00	2,100 00	20 00	180	1 80	1,690 00	23,440 00
Hardy.....	13	2		31	46	14,230 00	1,041 00	30 00			1,385 00	16,686 00
Harrison.....	106	1		4	111	55,968 00	1,535 20	930 00			3,286 00	61,719 20
Jackson.....	58			44	102	23,740 00	875 00				1,868 00	26,483 00
Jefferson.....	17	10	2	6	35	17,615 00	1,890 00	80 00			2,035 00	21,614 00
Kanawha.....	76	1		64	141	51,112 80	5,569 20	552 00	90	50 50	10,961 00	68,245 00
Lewis.....	54	1		25	80	27,750 00	400 00	75 00			2,565 00	30,415 00
Lincoln.....	6			53	59	11,336 00	438 00	557 00			397 00	12,728 00
*Logan.....				43	43	3,928 00					180 00	4,108 00
Marion.....	95	3		2	100	64,600 00	6,125 00	495 00			3,975 00	75,195 00
Marshall.....	51	1	1	3	56	48,372 00	2,173 00	787 00			3,059 00	54,391 00
Mason.....	73	5		31	112	54,456 00	2,956 00	423 00			6,966 50	63,806 50
McDowell.....				13	13	640 00						640 00
Mercer.....				52	52	3,890 00	140 00				370 00	4,400 00

FREE SCHOOLS.

TABLE C—Continued.

COUNTIES.	SCHOOL HOUSES.						VALUE OF SCHOOL HOUSES AND OTHER PROPERTY.					
	Frame.	Brick.	Stone.	Log.	Whole number.	Aggregate value.	Value of Furniture.	Value of Apparatus.	No. vols. in Library.	Value of Library.	Value of Land.	Total value of all school property.
Mineral.....	24	5		5	34	\$ 22,074 00	\$ 2,019 00	\$ 36 00			\$ 1,627 00	\$ 26,048 00
Monongalia.....	81	1			82	49,200 00	1,135 00	165 00			4,113 00	54,613 00
Monroe.....	63	1		15	79	22,359 00	1,683 00				1,607 00	25,649 00
Morgan.....	21	1		5	27	15,440 00	487 00	34 00			1,165 00	17,126 00
Nicholas.....	9			46	55	9,438 15	285 00	13 10			197 50	9,934 75
Ohio.....	31	1			32	34,233 00	3,965 00	288 00			2,512 35	41,298 35
Pendleton.....	27			38	65	11,632 00	874 50	116 00	5	2 50	626 00	13,694 50
Pleasants.....	29		4		33	13,645 00	136 00	115 00			823 00	14,719 00
Pocahontas.....	20	1		27	48	9,213 00	1,355 00	300 00			805 00	11,423 00
Preston.....	123	1		2	126	56,508 00	2,950 00				3,144 00	62,662 00
Putnam.....	34	1		23	58	16,245 00	1,225 00	14 00			1,805 00	19,289 00
Raleigh.....				66	66	8,863 80	30 00	136 80			228 50	9,259 10
Randolph.....	27			25	52	12,163 00	875 00	15 00			860 50	13,933 50
Ritchie.....	47	1		40	88	29,190 00	631 00	211 50			1,626 00	29,265 50
Roane.....	32			47	79	11,550 00	1,338 00	326 00			910 00	14,124 00
Summers.....	15			35	50	9,688 25	445 90				497 50	10,631 65
Taylor.....	44	2		1	47	31,603 00	1,838 00	268 00			4,633 50	38,342 50
Tucker.....	16			6	22	4,995 00	81 00	108 00			198 00	5,382 00
Tyler.....	54	1		9	64	20,340 00	1,175 00	445 00			1,375 25	23 280 25
Upshur.....	69			1	70	27,130 00	958 00	14 00			1,236 00	29,338 00
Wayne.....	7			69	76	13,902 30	629 00	67 00			1,777 00	16,375 30
Webster.....	3			15	18	2,305 00					1,070 00	3,375 00
Wetzel.....	59	1		24	84	20,696 00	1,128 00	820 00			835 00	23,479 00
Wirt.....	29			5	34	20,262 55	1,408 00	336 50			817 00	22,824 05
Wood.....	99	1		9	112	78,908 00	7,311 00	646 50			19,926 00	106,701 50
Wyoming.....	2			39	41	3,714 08	124 00	182 25			150 00	4,170 08
Wheeling City.....		8			8	169,608 95	14,570 74	1,000 00			51,500 00	236,677 69
Martinsburg City.....	1	5			6	30,000 00	3,000 00	200 00			1,000 00	34,200 00
Totals.....	1,897	86	11	1,284	3,278	\$1,421,942 38	\$91,288 19	\$11,700 24	821	\$ 716 80	\$162,701 60	\$1,688,349 21

* Report very imperfect.

TABLE D.

Enumeration of Youth Between the Ages of Six and Twenty-one Years, and Number Attending School.

COUNTIES.	WHITE.		COL'D.		TOTAL.		TOTAL.		Whole number.	NUMBER ATTENDING SCHOOL.						Whole number.	DAILY AVERAGE ATTENDANCE.						Whole number.
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	White.	Colored.		WHITE.			COLORED.				Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	
										Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.								
Barbour	2,083	1,897	97	82	2,180	1,972	3,973	179	4,152	1,663	1,379	3,042	57	42	100	3,142	1,077	869	1,946	31	27	58	2,004
Berkeley	1,640	1,443	241	208	1,881	1,651	3,083	449	3,532	1,140	946	2,086	132	113	245	2,331	584	440	1,024	90	71	161	1,185
Boone	1,025	899	14	20	1,039	919	1,924	34	1,958	622	524	1,146	5	6	11	1,157	399	337	736	3	8	11	647
Braxton	1,717	1,597	29	14	1,746	1,611	3,314	43	3,357	925	665	1,590	10	6	16	1,606	789	660	1,449	9	5	14	1,463
Brooke	946	953	13	18	959	971	1,899	31	1,930	712	678	1,390	7	12	19	1,409	672	469	941	6	3	9	950
Cabell	2,080	1,870	73	75	2,153	1,945	3,950	148	4,098	1,419	1,164	2,583	42	36	78	2,661	935	793	1,728	27	25	52	1,780
Calhoun	975	928	7	7	982	935	1,903	14	1,917	657	599	1,256	.....	.....	.....	1,256	476	403	879	.....	.....	.....	879
Clay	642	522	.....	.....	642	522	1,164	.....	1,164	432	319	751	.....	.....	.....	751	266	218	484	.....	.....	.....	484
Doddridge	1,884	1,678	7	7	1,891	1,685	3,562	14	3,576	1,469	1,122	2,591	3	2	5	2,596	935	728	1,663	3	2	5	1,668
Fayette	1,631	1,458	46	72	1,697	1,530	3,089	138	3,227	1,179	872	2,051	26	31	57	2,108	792	582	1,374	15	23	38	1,412
Gilmer	1,275	1,187	3	8	1,278	1,195	2,462	11	2,473	948	750	1,698	.....	.....	.....	1,698	554	511	1,065	.....	.....	.....	1,065
Grant	892	750	60	68	952	818	1,642	128	1,770	612	488	1,100	37	33	70	1,170	381	298	679	26	56	82	735
Greenbrier	1,926	1,829	273	252	2,199	2,081	3,756	525	4,280	1,240	987	2,227	154	154	308	2,535	789	644	1,433	95	115	210	1,643
Hampshire	1,535	1,371	107	93	1,642	1,464	2,906	200	3,106	956	732	1,688	35	38	73	1,760	558	425	983	32	28	60	1,043
Hancock	833	767	3	2	835	770	1,600	5	1,605	609	571	1,180	.....	.....	.....	1,180	400	406	806	.....	.....	.....	806
Hardy	1,017	933	113	108	1,130	1,041	1,950	221	2,171	701	583	1,284	64	63	127	1,411	420	331	751	54	50	104	875
Harrison	3,451	3,172	162	123	3,613	.....	6,623	235	6,908	2,548	2,022	4,570	76	54	130	4,700	1,805	1,308	3,113	56	44	100	3,213
Jackson	2,971	2,524	27	22	2,998	2,546	5,495	49	5,544	2,246	1,774	4,020	8	18	26	4,046	151	115	2,669	2	6	8	2,677
Jefferson	1,807	1,789	616	638	2,423	2,427	3,596	1,254	4,850	966	743	1,709	390	329	719	2,428	498	363	861	177	158	335	1,196
Kanawha	4,990	4,438	428	421	5,418	4,859	9,428	849	10,277	3,005	2,820	5,825	277	289	566	6,391	1,998	1,700	3,698	266	205	471	4,109
Lewis	2,163	1,911	39	41	2,202	1,952	4,074	80	4,154	1,683	1,322	3,005	17	14	31	3,036	1,223	970	2,193	12	14	26	2,219
Lincoln	1,444	1,352	6	6	1,450	1,358	2,796	12	2,808	1,099	1,049	2,148	.....	.....	.....	2,148	825	792	1,617	.....	.....	.....	1,617
Logan (2 dis. only)	1,147	1,018	21	10	1,168	1,028	2,165	31	2,196	266	175	441	.....	.....	.....	441	216	160	376	.....	.....	.....	376
Marion	3,228	2,949	18	19	3,246	2,968	6,177	37	6,214	2,618	2,005	4,623	11	20	31	4,654	1,828	1,331	3,159	10	15	25	3,184
Marshall	3,145	3,153	17	8	3,162	3,161	6,298	25	6,323	1,563	1,412	2,975	8	8	16	2,991	1,058	977	2,036	7	7	14	2,050
Mason	4,018	3,694	122	109	4,140	3,803	7,712	231	7,943	2,650	2,378	5,028	84	50	134	5,160	1,893	1,644	3,537	63	43	106	3,643
McDowell	550	490	.....	.....	550	490	1,040	.....	1,040	204	152	356	.....	.....	.....	356	146	100	246	.....	.....	.....	246
Mercer	1,191	1,173	63	55	1,254	1,228	2,365	118	2,482	824	415	1,239	18	13	31	1,570	532	453	985	14	11	25	1,010
Mineral	1,236	1,130	63	64	1,298	1,194	2,366	127	2,493	843	748	1,591	33	31	64	1,655	566	476	1,042	24	20	44	1,086
Monongalia	2,594	2,301	46	43	2,640	2,344	4,895	89	4,984	2,260	1,802	4,075	21	14	35	4,110	1,562	1,126	2,688	21	14	35	2,804
Monroe	1,695	1,491	152	140	1,847	1,631	3,186	292	3,478	1,463	1,042	2,510	76	82	158	2,668	942	680	1,622	52	55	108	1,730
Morgan	937	794	36	28	973	822	1,731	64	1,795	644	505	1,149	21	18	39	1,188	356	269	625	15	14	29	654

FREE SCHOOLS.

TABLE D.—Continued.

COUNTIES.	WHITE.		COL'D.		TOTAL.		TOTAL.		Whole number.	NUMBER ATTENDING SCHOOL.						Whole number.	DAILY AVERAGE ATTENDANCE.						Whole number.
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	White.	Colored.		WHITE.			COLORED.				WHITE.			COLORED.			
										Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.		Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	
Nicholas	1,229	1,164	11	10	1,240	1,174	2,393	21	2,414	869	674	1,543	7	9	16	1,559	546	460	1,006	7	9	16	1,022
Ohio.....	1,084	1,041	17	21	1,101	1,062	2,125	38	2,163	790	770	1,560	13	19	32	1,592	472	443	915	8	13	21	936
Pendleton	1,375	1,300	13	16	1,388	1,316	2,675	29	2,704	1,053	833	1,886	6	7	13	1,899	418	566	1,284	.....	.....	.....	1,284
Pleasants.....	1,074	947	4	5	1,078	952	2,021	9	2,030	624	573	1,197	.....	.....	.....	1,197	133	17	250	.....	.....	.....	250
Pocahontas	827	769	59	41	886	810	1,596	100	1,696	588	525	1,113	25	24	49	1,162	393	384	782	31	20	38	820
Preston	3,335	3,035	28	22	3,363	3,057	6,370	50	6,420	2,618	2,136	4,754	14	17	21	4,775	2,045	1,586	3,631	9	7	16	3,647
Putnam	1,913	1,761	67	61	1,980	1,822	3,674	128	3,802	1,276	1,031	2,307	22	20	42	2,349	834	677	1,511	20	18	38	1,549
Raleigh.....	1,314	1,182	9	6	1,323	1,188	2,496	15	2,511	964	843	1,809	.....	.....	.....	1,809	670	542	1,212	.....	.....	.....	1,212
Randolph.....	1,322	1,233	10	16	1,332	1,289	2,555	26	2,581	893	750	1,643	.....	.....	.....	1,643	543	482	1,025	.....	.....	.....	1,025
Ritchie.....	2,181	1,974	4	2	2,185	1,976	4,155	6	4,161	1,704	1,405	3,109	.....	.....	.....	3,109	1,163	889	2,052	.....	.....	.....	2,052
Roane	2,100	1,820	4	8	2,104	1,828	3,920	12	3,932	1,658	1,275	2,928	1	5	6	2,934	867	805	1,672	1	5	6	1,678
Summers.....	1,196	1,140	97	112	1,293	1,252	2,336	209	2,545	951	721	1,672	84	86	170	1,842	606	495	1,001	61	71	132	1,293
Taylor.....	1,843	1,766	72	75	1,915	1,841	3,609	147	3,756	1,280	1,126	2,406	27	24	51	2,457	880	762	1,642	15	11	26	1,668
Tucker	543	494	1	2	544	496	1,037	3	1,040	351	285	636	1	2	3	639	256	202	458	1	2	3	461
Tyler.....	1,977	1,861	2	1	1,979	1,862	3,838	3	3,841	1,531	1,260	2,701	.....	.....	.....	2,791	1,021	829	1,850	.....	.....	.....	1,850
Upshur	1,725	1,634	39	29	1,764	1,663	3,359	68	3,427	1,370	1,213	2,583	17	13	30	2,613	885	759	1,644	13	10	23	1,667
Wayne	2,693	2,344	25	12	2,718	2,356	5,037	37	5,074	1,658	1,556	3,214	6	12	18	2,232	1,295	1,052	2,347	3	7	10	2,357
Webster.....	501	473	.....	.....	501	473	974	.....	974	276	220	496	.....	.....	.....	496	158	136	294	.....	.....	.....	294
Wetzel.....	2,612	2,246	.....	.....	2,612	2,226	4,858	.....	4,858	1,343	1,170	2,513	.....	.....	.....	2,513	814	747	1,561	.....	.....	.....	1,561
Wirt.....	1,253	1,112	.....	11	1,253	1,113	2,365	1	2,366	738	700	1,438	.....	.....	.....	1,438	571	503	1,074	.....	.....	.....	1,074
Wood.....	3,971	3,766	121	138	4,092	3,904	7,737	259	7,996	2,727	2,535	5,259	52	59	111	5,370	1,510	1,743	3,253	47	4	51	3,304
Wyoming.....	777	688	8	12	785	700	1,465	20	1,485	453	291	744	8	6	14	758	293	199	492	8	6	14	506
Wheeling City. ...	5,155	4,718	140	138	5,295	4,856	9,873	278	10,151	2,957	2,410	5,367	66	81	147	5,514	1,882	1,754	3,636	30	32	62	3,698
Martinsburg City.	889	890	87	87	976	977	1,774	174	1,953	450	580	1,030	63	77	140	1,170	395	510	905	48	54	102	1,007
Total.....	109,310	91,927	4718	3577	118,124	83,113	192,942	8,295	201,237	68,677	57,556	126,233	2017	1934	3951	130,184	46,136	37,220	84,005	1,340	1,288	2,628	86,768

TABLE E.

Sub-Districts, Schools, Number and Grade of Certificate.

COUNTIES.	DISTRICTS.		SCHOOLS.				EXAMINATION AND GRADE OF CERTIFICATE.							
	No. of districts.	No. of sub-districts.	Hgh.	Graded.	Common.	Total.	No. 1.	No. 2.	No. 3.	No. 4.	No. 5.	No. granted.	No. rejected.	
Barbour	8	80	.....	.....	82	82	40	29	23	5	.....	97	.....	
Berkeley	6	46	.....	.....	56	56	18	30	15	9	1	73	.....	
Boone	5	45	.....	.....	45	45	11	15	21	4	.....	51	.....	
Braxton	6	76	.....	.....	77	77	22	30	26	6	3	87	1	
Brooke	3	25	.....	2	25	27	31	10	1	.....	.....	42	.....	
Cabell	7	54	.....	3	66	69	22	44	14	1	.....	81	.....	
Calhoun	5	36	.....	.....	36	36	13	15	13	1	2	44	2	
Clay	5	23	.....	.....	23	23	9	15	6	1	.....	31	1	
Doddridge	7	67	1	1	65	67	7	22	29	15	.....	73	.....	
Fayette	5	74	.....	.....	74	74	19	34	11	1	.....	65	1	
Gilmer	5	59	.....	.....	57	51	10	19	6	3	6	44	.....	
Grant	5	39	.....	2	41	43	6	13	17	5	2	43	4	
Greenbrier	10	70	.....	2	84	86	27	24	22	6	.....	79	.....	
Hampshire	6	53	.....	.....	60	60	5	17	22	18	7	69	13	
Hancock	4	22	.....	1	23	24	11	18	11	2	1	43	.....	
Hardy	4	15	.....	.....	50	50	5	2	40	4	1	52	.....	
Harrison	13	105	.....	3	115	118	42	47	23	7	.....	109	.....	
Jackson	6	106	.....	1	106	107	42	36	35	25	16	154	.....	
Jefferson	7	25	.....	.....	43	43	37	12	.....	.....	.....	49	.....	
Kanawha School	12	141	2	17	159	178	34	30	25	1	.....	90	.....	
Lewis	6	80	.....	.....	82	82	31	25	20	4	1	81	2	
Lincoln	8	59	.....	.....	59	59	27	22	9	3	.....	61	3	
Logan	4	43	.....	.....	44	44	21	10	10	3	1	45	.....	
Marion	8	96	1	5	95	101	49	58	11	.....	.....	118	.....	
Marshall	7	55	1	2	54	58	33	40	4	.....	.....	77	6	
Mason	12	106	.....	4	102	106	36	73	40	3	.....	152	.....	
McDowell	5	44	.....	.....	61	61	22	33	5	4	1	65	.....	
Mercer	7	34	.....	.....	38	40	12	18	9	2	4	45	1	
Mineral	8	82	.....	2	82	83	33	71	6	.....	.....	110	.....	
Monongalia	6	60	.....	1	81	81	52	19	9	3	2	85	1	
Monroe	6	27	.....	1	28	29	12	9	8	1	.....	30	.....	
Morgan	3	12	.....	.....	18	18	12	3	1	.....	.....	16	.....	
Nicholas	6	55	.....	.....	58	58	22	20	8	3	1	54	.....	
Ohio	5	31	.....	.....	33	33	21	16	4	1	.....	42	.....	
Pendleton	6	70	.....	.....	70	70	10	18	31	9	3	71	.....	
Pleasants	6	31	.....	1	33	34	21	14	10	2	.....	47	.....	
Pocahontas	4	36	.....	.....	48	48	22	12	6	.....	.....	40	.....	
Preston	9	125	.....	.....	126	126	60	65	6	.....	.....	131	4	
Putnam	7	57	.....	2	58	60	22	52	12	1	1	88	.....	
Raleigh	7	70	.....	.....	71	71	2	24	36	7	2	71	.....	
Randolph	9	58	.....	1	56	57	16	16	11	10	10	58	1	
Ritchie	5	89	.....	2	87	89	23	31	30	10	6	100	2	
Roane	8	79	.....	1	78	79	14	41	24	2	.....	81	2	
Summers	5	59	.....	.....	71	71	24	30	11	1	.....	65	3	
Taylor	7	48	.....	3	51	54	23	25	10	6	2	66	2	
Tucker	5	27	.....	.....	30	30	4	13	14	10	.....	41	.....	
Tyler	6	65	.....	1	63	64	14	30	25	7	2	78	1	
Upshur	6	70	.....	2	69	71	24	35	31	9	2	101	.....	
Wayne	6	87	1	1	88	90	28	44	24	4	.....	100	13	
Webster	4	19	.....	.....	25	25	18	10	3	.....	.....	31	.....	
Wetzel	6	84	.....	1	83	84	26	64	19	3	.....	112	.....	
Wirt	7	43	1	1	38	49	23	11	10	2	2	48	.....	
Wood	11	106	1	7	104	112	41	56	13	9	3	122	.....	
Wyoming	6	42	.....	.....	42	42	18	9	3	6	4	40	1	
Wheeling	1	7	.....	8	.....	8	87	13	.....	.....	.....	100	.....	
Martinsburg, Independent..	1	.....	1	4	1	6	7	9	3	.....	.....	19	.....	
Totals	352	3,227	9	82	3,419	3,511	1,321	1,501	836	228	86	3,972	64	

TABLE F.

Number of Teachers and Number of Months Taught.

COUNTIES.	TEACHERS.						MONTHS TAUGHT.								General average No. of Months Taught.
	WHITE.			COLORED			BY WHITE.			BY COLORED			Whole Number.		
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.			
Barbour.....	64	19	83	2	1	3	86	249	77	326	8	4	12	338	4.00
Berkeley.....	37	11	48	6	2	8	56	259	75	334	40	4	54	388	6.85
Boone.....	36	8	44	1	..	1	45	117	28	145	3	.....	3	148	3.28
Braxton.....	*	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	209	65	274	3	.....	3	277	3.59
Brooke.....	18	15	33	.....	.....	.....	33	116	108	224	.....	.....	.....	224	6.00
Cabell.....	48	19	67	2	..	2	69	223	111	234	11	..	11	345	5.00
Calhoun.....	32	9	41	.....	.....	.....	41	118	32	150	.....	.....	.....	150	3.85
Clay.....	25	3	28	.....	.....	.....	28	76	9	85	.....	.....	.....	85	3.00
Doddridge.....	45	24	69	..	1	1	70	182	98	280	.....	3	3	283	4.14
Fayette.....	60	13	73	2	.....	2	75	204	41	245	7	.....	7	252	3.70
Gilmer.....	42	16	58	.....	.....	.....	58	138	53	191	.....	.....	.....	191	4.00
Grant.....	33	8	41	3	.....	3	44	133	33	166	10	.....	10	176	5.22
Greenbrier.....	67	16	83	11	2	13	96	270	73	343	42	5	47	390	4.40
Hampshire.....	54	8	62	2	.....	2	64	208	32	240	8	.....	8	248	3.83
Hancock.....	18	10	28	.....	.....	.....	28	113	64	177	.....	.....	.....	177	6.25
Hardy.....	36	12	48	3	1	4	52	143	47	190	12	4	16	206	3.90
Harrison.....	106	25	131	2	.....	2	133	449	121	570	13	.....	13	583	4.40
Jackson.....	89	28	117	1	1	2	119	352	107	459	3	3	6	465	4.50
Jefferson.....	27	9	36	10	2	12	48	245	80	325	87	16	103	428	8.76
Kanawha.....	115	48	163	13	2	15	178	61	61	122	34	10	44	166	3.21
Lewis.....	71	15	86	1	..	1	87	290	66	356	6	.....	6	362	4.33
Lincoln.....	50	9	59	.....	.....	.....	59	154	32	186	.....	.....	.....	186	3.15
Logan.....	42	3	45	.....	.....	.....	45	108	9	117	.....	.....	.....	117	2.50
Marion.....	85	27	112	.....	.....	.....	112	336	123	459	.....	.....	.....	459	4.30
Marshall.....	52	11	63	..	1	1	64	223	71	299	.....	3	3	302	4.50
Mason.....	87	43	130	3	1	4	134	403	234	637	16	6	22	659	5.10
Meigs.....	17	.....	17	.....	.....	.....	17	37	.....	37	.....	.....	.....	37	2.20
Mineral.....	42	9	51	2	.....	2	53	159	45	204	6	.....	6	210	4.00
Monongalia.....	33	14	47	2	1	3	50	141	70	211	10	3	13	224	4.20
Monroe.....	66	22	88	..	1	1	89	271	105	376	.....	5	5	381	4.00
Morgan.....	66	8	74	5	.....	5	79	268	32	300	23	.....	23	323	3.90
McDowell.....	27	1	28	2	.....	2	30	116	4	120	6	.....	6	126	4.20
Nicholas.....	53	3	56	1	.....	1	57	198	9	207	1	.....	1	208	3.50
Ohio.....	25	18	43	1	.....	1	44	152	110	262	5	.....	5	267	8.20
Pendleton.....	67	4	71	.....	.....	.....	71	264	16	280	2	.....	2	282	3.99
Pleasants.....	26	10	36	.....	.....	.....	36	112	40	152	.....	.....	.....	152	4.76
Pocahontas.....	34	12	46	2	.....	2	48	136	48	184	6	..	6	190	3.93
Preston.....	109	26	135	.....	.....	.....	135	433	106	539	.....	.....	.....	539	3.88
Putnam.....	46	17	63	2	..	2	65	198	65	263	7	..	7	270	4.15
Raleigh.....	61	10	71	.....	.....	.....	71	215	36	251	.....	.....	.....	251	3.30
Randolph.....	43	14	57	.....	.....	.....	57	187	55	242	.....	.....	.....	242	3.44
Ritchie.....	65	33	98	.....	.....	.....	98	245	124	369	.....	.....	.....	369	4.00
Roane.....	66	14	80	..	1	1	81	254	57	311	.....	2	2	313	3.98
Summers.....	52	12	64	3	2	5	69	172	40	212	12	8	20	232	3.85
Taylor.....	43	17	60	1	..	1	61	179	78	257	1	..	1	258	4.46
Tucker.....	27	3	30	.....	.....	.....	30	85	9	94	.....	.....	.....	94	3.39
Tyler.....	56	11	67	.....	.....	.....	67	224	44	268	.....	.....	.....	268	4.00
Upshur.....	56	19	75	.....	.....	.....	75	224	76	300	.....	.....	.....	300	4.00
Wayne.....	73	23	96	1	..	1	97	368	74	442	4	..	4	446	4.16
Webster.....	19	6	25	.....	.....	.....	25	53	17	70	.....	.....	.....	70	2.89
Wetzel.....	65	20	85	.....	.....	.....	85	224	57	381	.....	.....	.....	281	3.92
Wirt.....	29	13	42	.....	.....	.....	42	117	55	172	.....	.....	.....	172	4.09
Wood.....	73	56	129	1	2	3	132	303	236	539	9	16	25	564	4.27
Wyoming.....	39	.....	39	1	..	1	40	101	.....	101	2	..	2	103	2.50
Wheeling.....	12	85	97	2	1	3	100	78	808	886	13	10	23	909	9.09
Martinsburg.....	4	13	17	1	1	2	19	40	130	170	10	10	20	190	10.00
Total.....	2,733	902	3,635	89	23	112	3,747	10,938	4,396	15,334	420	122	542	15,876	4.38

*Omitted from County Superintendent's report.

TABLE G.

Age of Pupils, Number Studying, and Number of Visits from Officers.

COUNTIES	AVE. AGE OF PUPILS.			NUMBER OF PUPILS STUDYING.										VISITS.		
	Male.	Female.	Gen'l average.	Orthography.	Reading.	Writing.	Arithmetic.	Geography.	Eng. Grammar.	History.	Algebra.	German.	Other branches.	By Co. Superin- tendent.	By others.	Total.
Barbour	11.00	11.00	11.00	2,754	2,065	1,444	1,031	322	322	84			46	80	322	402
Berkeley	11.25	10.00	11.75	1,838	1,702	1,501	1,326	711	558	174			63	103	53	156
Boone	10.00	9.75	9.70	947	418	384	200	42	27	6				43	91	134
Braxton	11.33	11.50	11.41	1,933	1,266	713	558	283	243	107			8	77	235	282
Brooke	11.00	11.00	11.00	830	729	535	770	431	292	68			167	66	285	351
Cabell	12.00	10.00	11.00	2,173	1,824	1,385	1,180	475	350	129		7	31	114	345	459
Calhoun	12.50	12.30	12.40	1,128	921	460	454	166	109	29			19	41	266	307
Clay	10.92	9.84	10.38	695	454	273	187	139	75	33			2	27	59	86
Doddridge	12.12	11.62	11.87	2,160	1,836	1,213	1,021	327	237	65			49	67	437	504
Fayette	12.34	11.25	11.79	1,779	1,184	759	704	438	216	112			7	61	269	330
Gilmer	10.75	10.20	10.40	1,317	1,060	703	553	146	153	117			6	46	153	199
Grant	11.00	10.20	10.60	1,111	916	750	607	270	63	36			15	46	179	225
Greenbrier	11.00	10.30	10.70	1,972	1,631	1,259	1,168	559	271	109			107	48	258	306
Hampshire	11.73	10.89	11.31	1,705	1,288	1,176	870	355	270	131			24	54	467	521
Hancock	*			772	887	502	666	309	189	55			73	28	451	579
Hardy	11.50	9.75	10.62	1,069	781	690	493	218	72	22			27	35	117	152
Harrison	11.00	11.00	11.00	4,283	3,053	2,808	2,515	1,314	817	247			161	113	1,345	1,458
Jackson	12.00	11.50	11.75	3,430	2,789	1,779	2,367	474	267	84			21	98	1,250	1,348
Jefferson	11.25	10.63	10.94	1,970	1,716	1,442	1,304	812	334	271			108	57	176	233
Kanawha	11.08	10.67	10.87	4,933	4,220	3,475	2,921	2,187	1,660	1,222			26	171	341	512
Lewis	12.52	11.10	11.81	2,392	2,009	1,712	1,441	500	577	222			52	81	257	332
Lincoln	11.00	10.50	10.75	1,495	1,276	819	651	349	394	139			6	65	103	168
Logan	11.67	9.67	11.00	90	90	63	39	3	8					42	61	103
Marion	11.20	10.80	11.00	4,387	3,718	2,630	2,300	1,130	813	426	169			120	617	737
Marshall	11.00	11.33	11.16	2,668	2,292	1,912	2,056	946	547	204			98	49	395	444
Mason	11.00	13.00	12.00	4,515	3,686	2,495	2,188	1,035	808	251			439	79	427	506
McDowell	11.16	11.00	11.08	185	95		62							31	34	65
Mercer	*			907	644	273	528	134	195	66			3	52	148	200
Mineral	10.71	11.14	10.92	1,509	1,230	888	986	391	410				81	43	76	119
Monongalia	11.00	11.00	11.50	3,778	3,272	2,569	1,939	1,484	856	884			315	82	137	249

* Not reported.

TABLE G.—Continued.

COUNTIES.	AVE. AGE OF PUPILS.			NUMBER OF PUPILS STUDYING.										VISITS.		
	Male.	Female.	Gen'l average.	Orthography.	Reading.	Writing.	Arithmetic.	Geography.	Eng. Grammar.	History.	Algebra.	German.	Other branches.	By Co. Superintendents.	By others.	Total.
Monroe	11.20	10.80	11.00	1,847	1,493	874	885	317	428	39	.....	.....	8	98	53	151
Morgan	11.07	10 05	10.56	1,109	896	687	454	161	84	37	.....	.....	1	57	105	162
Nicholas	10 20	10 40	10 25	1,470	1,239	721	576	189	188	43	.....	.....	.....	40	145	185
Ohio	9.60	9 60	9.60	1,320	1,293	926	873	369	180	126	.....	.....	87	62	92	154
Pendleton	11.91	11 58	11 75	1,332	1,154	950	686	170	172	105	.....	.....	48	57	253	315
Pleasants	12 00	11.00	11.50	992	865	598	456	185	89	49	.....	.....	11	33	125	158
Pocahontas	11 00	11 00	11.00	1,029	771	565	546	213	191	97	.....	.....	23	49	131	180
Preston	12.11	10 66	11 38	4,361	3,270	2,326	1,982	594	338	337	.....	2	74	119	1,443	1,562
Putnam	12.00	11.00	11.50	2,093	1,425	958	919	391	280	117	.....	.....	56	75	397	472
Raleigh	11 60	11 03	11 05	1,454	846	643	442	164	176	30	.....	.....	5	5	204	209
Randolph	11 44	11.00	11 22	1,323	990	705	687	255	129	42	.....	4	17	34	297	331
Ritchie .....	.....	.....	.....	2,350	2,276	1,481	1,317	430	186	38	.....	44	24	87	531	618
Roane	11.59	9.13	10.36	2,650	2,090	1,074	1,031	317	303	87	.....	.....	36	72	464	1,186
Summers .....	*	.....	.....	1,067	780	540	449	180	209	57	.....	.....	10	75	129	204
Taylor	11.16	10.66	10 71	2,187	1,838	1,451	1,476	648	337	191	.....	.....	41	85	230	315
Tucker	11.00	9.00	10 00	605	325	236	118	86	39	17	.....	.....	.....	24	98	122
Tyler	10.25	10.00	10.16	2,651	2,178	1,725	1,476	589	334	132	.....	.....	67	69	772	841
Upshur	11.40	11.05	11.22	2,538	2,132	1,425	1,142	437	329	108	.....	.....	46	71	121	192
Wayne .....	*	.....	.....	2,760	1,799	1,038	973	513	368	112	.....	.....	209	106	6	112
Webster	11.79	11.35	11.57	387	247	115	84	20	27	16	.....	.....	.....	19	108	137
Wetzel	12.10	11.32	11.71	1,982	1,601	1,162	792	506	312	235	71	.....	.....	86	226	312
Wirt	12.00	11.00	11.50	1,354	1,115	869	675	371	236	102	87	.....	.....	36	150	186
Wood .....	*	.....	.....	4,686	4,376	3,444	3,038	1,539	567	311	.....	.....	1,038	109	645	754
Wyoming	12.00	10 70	11 40	755	288	214	128	16	51	13	.....	.....	2	60	98	168
Wheeling	10.00	10.50	10 25	5,380	5,293	4,876	2,917	2,141	658	443	.....	436	527	320	137	456
Martinsburg	11.50	12 00	11 75	1,170	760	760	310	300	160	90	72	12	64	.....	72	72
Totals	11.32	11.77	11.05	111,777	90,932	66,965	57,499	27,081	17,504	8,267	401	505	4,348	3,865	16,391	20,995

*Not reported.

TABBE

*Amount of District Levies; Amount of Delinquent Lists; Total Receipts
Average Cost*

COUNTIES.	DISTRICT LEVIES.				DELINQUENT LISTS.	
	No. of cents for Building Fund.	No. of cents for Teachers' Fund.	Amount levied for Building Fund.	Amount levied for Teachers' Fund.	Amount of Delinquent List returned for Building Fund.	Amount of Delinquent List returned for Teachers' Fund.
Barbour.....	9.9	19.7	\$ 2,292 42	\$ 4,533 43	\$ 33 68	\$ 65 74
Berkeley.....	*15.3	22.9	3,540 66	8,605 35	30 13	66 74
Boone.....	21.1	47.4	1,321 41	2,921 95	65 97	178 14
Braxton.....	33 5	39.7	5,038 64	5,977 50	2,083 25	2,471 59
Brooke.....	6 4	19.9	1,871 57	5,882 30	8 18	25 29
Cabell.....	30 3	35.3	8,070 03	9,394 52	1,677 98	1,132 86
Calhoun.....	35 9	44.4	1,870 42	2,312 78	213 11	264 67
Clay.....	34.0	45 3	1,120 19	1,485 05	143 31	171 65
Doddridge.....	19.9	21.6	3,300 79	3,582 51	318 18	360 75
Fayette.....	11.2	39.2	1,683 02	5,876 81	363 90	919 05
Gilmer.....	34.8	41 6	3,051 08	3,645 44	180 46	212 08
Giant.....	5.8	20.7	1,098 78	3,906 56	5 03	36 05
Greenbrier.....	9 9	17.7	4,351 88	7,860 64	37 64	21 60
Hampshire.....	11.5	26.5	2,294 09	5,282 54	15 41	33 25
Hancock.....	18.1	24.6	3,585 96	4,856 07	26 27	46 76
Hardy.....	5 8	14.6	1,397 93	3,496 00	33 69	84 41
Harrison.....	5 8	16.0	4,735 73	12,950 06	92 71	219 75
Jackson.....	23.6	36.6	6,007 17	9,456 17	768 22	1,429 33
Jefferson.....	7.2	18.5	4,454 41	11,562 46	57 71	150 51
Kanawha.....	*19.5	49 5	10,073 32	25,605 95	1,797 06	3,795 19
Lewis.....	11.5	25.9	3,239 87	7,275 56	75 18	152 42
Lincoln.....	21.9	49.6	2,059 94	4,646 00	330 40	931 07
Logan.....	22.5	38.6	1,490 77	2,549 82	416 99	541 25
Marion.....	10 9	16.5	6,692 86	7,274 82	39 69	115 52
Marshall.....	14.8	12.4	6,711 18	5,697 19	25 55	19 22
Mason.....	16 9	28.0	9,831 41	16,282 97	330 88	61 19
McDowell.....	11.2	15 5	582 11	886 97	326 82	447 52
Mercer.....	23.6	43 3	1,625 85	3,185 58	55 42	103 69
Mineral.....	11.4	23.5	3,229 47	6,581 13	114 62	265 52
Monongalia.....	6.9	14.8	3,286 39	7,017 85	8 34	12 91
Monroe.....	9 1	29.2	2,465 07	7,917 50	66 21	181 35
Morgan.....	32.2	28.7	3,413 23	3,042 94	38 70	51 82
Nicholas.....	17.9	30 6	1,537 21	2,633 00	462 50	761 93
Ohio.....	†3.9	22.8	3,723 57	6,064 43	10 71	18 48
Pendleton.....	6 4	30.2	1,056 89	4,960 84	4 31	29 14
Pleasants.....	24.5	27.4	2,610 52	2,909 56	23 61	34 57
Pocahontas.....	12 0	23.2	1,958 11	3,886 54	76 46	139 58
Preston.....	28.6	32.4	8,889 45	10,064 65	257 08	313 08
Putnam.....	20.7	30.9	3,669 24	5,477 37	67 96	122 13
Raleigh.....	31.2	37.0	2,669 51	3,156 86	383 51	545 02
Randolph.....	24.1	34.5	2,611 57	3,600 34	708 63	938 47
Ritchie.....	30 3	28.4	5,497 99	5,158 24	272 45	314 57
Roane.....	29.7	49.7	3,296 63	5,517 87	213 27	381 59
Summers.....	20 6	41.8	2,115 28	3,373 66	19 63	129 31
Taylor.....	17.7	23.8	5,838 74	7,829 07	1,263 04	2,090 18
Tucker.....	21 0	26.1	1,061 58	1,296 46	14 98	18 03
Tyler.....	17.4	28.7	3,137 59	5,164 56	111 29	149 49
Upshur.....	13.1	27.7	3,165 06	6,666 99	509 58	971 97
Wayne.....	25.9	32.2	5,176 03	6,446 70	426 00	735 00
Webster.....	36.7	35.1	2,318 09	2,225 71	1,288 81	1,330 15
Wetzel.....	33.4	38.2	5,685 58	6,487 18	269 25	396 73
Wirt.....	27.9	41.4	2,726 15	4,042 76	408 91	556 40
Wood.....	14.5	30.0	10,964 96	22,580 42	523 04	1,270 46
Wyoming.....	17.1	27.3	8,991 21	1,414 31	68 70	93 53
Wheeling City.....	†	.....	3,653 38	36,533 85	.....	.....
Martinsburg City.....	†	.....	4,997 00	4,145 52	168 37	168 37
Totals.....	14.3	26.2	\$205,089 10	\$373,584 31	\$17,337 73	\$27,577 17

*Including Martinsburg. †Including City of Wheeling. ‡Included in Ohio County. ¶Included

H.

and Expenditures; Balance on hand; Apportionment to Teachers, and per Pupil.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

Total receipts for all purposes, including balance on hand and State School Fund at beginning of school year.	Total amount reported expended of Building Fund.	Total amount reported expended of Teachers' Fund.	Balance on hand of Building Fund.	Balance on hand of Teachers' Fund.	Amount Teachers' Fund apportioned to whites.	Amount Teachers' Fund apportioned to colored.	Average cost per pupil.
\$ 15,060 59	2,981 70	8,671 93	\$ 2,030 51	\$ 1,799 38	\$ 9,714 78	\$ 388 22	3.91
17,712 86	3,057 55	11,360 28	934 15	2,220 42	1,281 69	1,782 65	5.26
6,089 12	1,059 89	4,194 70	433 89	400 94	4,116 70	78 00	4.58
11,174 98	4,012 88	4,136 89	246 08	243 30	5,998 90	79 62	5.10
13,023 00	1,771 06	8,227 77	685 79	2,033 24	10,115 67	188 30	10.58
20,442 52	6,490 60	11,472 27	1,603 96	875 69	11,527 94	350 10	7.25
6,402 70	1,201 55	3,667 33	523 22	887 16	3,679 80	.....	4.00
5,513 21	1,224 38	1,933 43	996 66	1,358 73	3,157 82	.....	2.50
12,214 34	3,762 61	7,623 00	460 63	1,289 36	12,150 84	68 50	4.44
12,266 69	1,817 84	183 79	918 58	1,980 46	8,195 67	250 66	1.39
11,269 82	2,475 88	4,735 21	936 35	2,482 19	5,981 85	36 44	4.44
8,062 91	857 77	5,233 86	991 97	767 88	5,008 62	225 24	7.32
21,367 69	5,569 91	12,060 89	1,984 47	2,145 14	12,530 80	1,560 26	6.23
10,384 80	2,107 04	6,603 75	30 14	1,540 00	?	?	6.51
10,586 89	2,956 96	5,414 73	1,043 64	772 55	8,770 70	.....	7.43
7,824 26	1,758 20	5,325 00	210 02	891 67	5,904 35	816 92	7.40
32,578 49	4,972 40	20,648 85	3,081 61	4,021 61	20,171 90	492 25	5.45
19,691 91	3,432 87	13,048 04	1,057 46	1,335 24	14,016 24	96 00	4.94
23,043 12	5,913 68	15,584 55	476 30	650 91	15,072 31	3,972 31	7.73
48,209 30	10,460 44	28,379 91	2,195 88	4,795 52	32,582 70	3,966 25	5.98
15,162 43	2,692 71	10,888 71	900 08	676 68	?	?	5.77
10,077 60	1,343 28	5,889 80	1,294 21	1,626 10	5,889 80	.....	3.65
.....	503 36	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	?
22,740 20	5,503 55	13,457 84	2,145 88	1,289 58	9,904 74	200 00	6.28
20,658 70	6,042 13	10,701 56	2,485 86	1,470 57	?	90 00	.....
43,252 98	11,647 66	23,403 30	6,261 26	5,504 24	39,188 86	739 82	8.15
1,332 74	420 87	841 60	.....	27 32	966 28	.....	2.40
6,800 96	770 05	3,799 93	184 69	.....	3,397 08	135 00	3.75
12,026 00	2,369 70	7,609 69	896 40	1,234 80	9,573 85	350 00	7.00
16,117 49	2,658 86	1,535 84	757 91	1,436 97	14,297 41	226 00	4.05
14,088 06	2,409 81	9,525 03	214 12	1,983 05	.....	.....	5.50
10,656 89	4,298 11	3,885 67	400 32	1,144 47	4,872 91	157 23	5.94
6,410 92	1,013 68	4,446 18	615 55	672 24	5,049 10	68 72	4.35
14,393 56	3,070 63	9,484 76	1,503 98	241 81	9,627 79	115 52	10.13
9,011 29	810 22	7,161 47	226 00	483 94	8,130 57	67 28	5.50
7,889 17	2,821 69	4,834 59	948 25	342 56	5,416 71	.....	4.06
7,378 72	1,350 30	4,903 99	733 08	453 14	5,140 62	219 09	5.98
30,384 83	4,871 72	17,294 74	4,925 77	2,080 44	17,174 72	100 45	4.78
16,403 46	4,081 42	9,300 00	410 78	2,440 25	9,114 75	446 21	6.00
7,912 96	2,197 40	4,811 51	223 44	680 61	5,492 12	.....	3.96
7,021 99	1,912 17	4,832 33	219 02	48 47	4,832 33	.....	4.71
20,769 06	5,462 83	1,391 14	910 88	3,864 86	9,671 78	.....	4.71
11,169 96	2,069 90	8,354 27	887 48	974 69	8,594 55	15 00	4.98
7,082 72	2,002 18	5,620 11	344 50	349 93	5,860 45	481 25	4.31
15,714 79	5,160 19	8,797 92	573 73	3,169 32	9,498 90	467 54	5.27
4,495 72	794 68	1,985 40	233 91	755 74	2,171 33	.....	4.31
12,491 79	2,711 79	7,807 62	458 74	888 10	7,807 62	.....	4.22
12,760 16	2,235 29	7,968 05	582 14	890 46	9,323 88	178 44	4.75
13,350 32	3,485 15	9,670 00	.....	.....	9,670 00	108 00	4.10
2,852 45	967 55	1,470 25	141 92	442 60	1,913 25	.....	5.00
14,479 34	2,361 94	7,878 00	2,066 78	1,826 00	7,878 00	.....	5.05
11,619 55	1,443 68	5,891 67	1,619 49	1,998 59	8,203 08	.....	5.43
50,359 77	8,161 21	24,117 35	2,773 61	12,972 94	49,374 77	975 00	7.29
3,027 66	466 49	2,034 16	602 61	236 75	2,400 24	31 41	4.00
56,086 65	9,170 94	39,504 00	2,793 88	3,853 66	.....	.....	13.37
12,818 56	2,855 80	7,520 00	1,051 60	700 01	.....	.....	?
\$342,818 65	\$180,113 70	\$501,704 61	\$61,255 78	\$38,554 40	\$480,414 27	\$21,290 34	5.23

in Berkeley County. ? Imperfect report. ? Not given.

DESCRIPTION OF INVESTED SCHOOL FUND.

Stock in First National Bank of Fairmont, W. Va.....	\$50,000 00
Stock in Parkersburg National Bank.....	40,000 00
Stock in National Bank of West Virginia, at Wheeling.....	30,000 00—\$120,000 00

U. S. Registered Central Pacific Railroads Bonds.

No. 2,037, dated August 2, 1866—Interest from July 10, 1866.....	\$ 1,000 00
No. 2,038, dated August 2, 1866—Interest from July 10, 1866.....	1,000 00
No. 2,039, dated August 2, 1866—Interest from July 10, 1866.....	1,000 00
No. 2,040, dated August 2, 1866—Interest from July 10, 1866.....	1,000 00
No. 2,041, dated August 2, 1866—Interest from July 10, 1866.....	1,000 00
No. 2,042, dated August 2, 1866—Interest from July 10, 1866.....	1,000 00
No. 2,043, dated August 2, 1866—Interest from July 10, 1866.....	1,000 00
No. 2,044, dated August 2, 1866—Interest from July 10, 1866.....	1,000 00
No. 2,045, dated August 2, 1866—Interest from July 10, 1866.....	1,000 00
No. 2,046, dated August 2, 1866—Interest from July 10, 1866.....	1,000 00
No. 2,047, dated August 2, 1866—Interest from July 10, 1866.....	1,000 00
No. 2,200, dated August 22, 1868—Interest from January 1, 1868.....	1,000 00
No. 30, dated January 22, 1868—Interest from January 1, 1868.....	5,000 00
No. 251, dated January 22, 1868—Interest from January 1, 1868.....	10,000 00
No. 252, dated January 22, 1868—Interest from January 1, 1868.....	10,000 00—\$ 37,000 00

U. S. Registered Union Pacific Railroad Bonds.

No. 1,982, dated January 21, 1869—Interest from January 1, 1869.....	\$10,000 00
No. 1,525, dated January 21, 1869—Interest from January 1, 1869.....	5,000 00
No. 235, dated March 13, 1869—Interest from February 10, 1869.....	10,000 00
No. 236, dated March 13, 1869—Interest from February 10, 1869.....	10,000 00
No. 3,739, dated October 27, 1873—Interest from July 1, 1873.....	10,000 00
No. 3,759, dated November 7, 1873—Interest from July 1, 1873.....	10,000 00—\$ 55,000 00

U. S. Registered 5-20 Bonds.

No. 492, dated January 15, 1870—Interest from January 1, 1870.....	\$ 500 00
No. 2,123, dated January 13, 1870—Interest from January 1, 1870.....	1,000 00
No. 2,124, dated January 13, 1870—Interest from January 1, 1870.....	1,000 00
No. 2,125, dated January 13, 1870—Interest from January 1, 1870.....	1,000 00
No. 653, dated January 15, 1870—Interest from January 1, 1870.....	5,000 00
No. 847, dated January 15, 1870—Interest from January 1, 1870.....	10,000 00—\$ 18,500 00

Crtificates of U. S. Stock 5-20s.

No. 714, dated February 18, 1871—Interest from January 1, 1871.....	\$ 500 00
No. 2,837, dated February 18, 1871—Interest from January 1, 1871.....	1,000 00
No. 2,838, dated February 18, 1871—Interest from January 1, 1871.....	1,000 00
No. 2,839, dated February 18, 1871—Interest from January 1, 1871.....	1,000 00
No. 2,840, dated February 18, 1871—Interest from January 1, 1871.....	1,000 00
No. 828, dated February 18, 1871—Interest from January 1, 1871.....	5,000 00
No. 1,051, dated February 18, 1871—Interest from January 1, 1871.....	10,000 00
No. 1,052, dated February 18, 1871—Interest from January 1, 1871.....	10,000 00
No. 11,519, dated March 6, 1871—Interest from January 1, 1871.....	100 00
No. 11,520, dated March 6, 1871—Interest from January 1, 1871.....	100 00
No. 11,521, dated March 6, 1871—Interest from January 1, 1871.....	100 00
No. 24,030, dated March 6, 1871—Interest from January 1, 1871.....	1,000 00
No. 7,160, dated March 6, 1871—Interest from January 1, 1871.....	5,000 00
No. 10,302, dated March 6, 1871—Interest from January 1, 1871.....	10,000 00—\$ 45,800 00
Bonds of the State of West Virginia, dated October 29, 1873, bearing interest from October 29, 1873.....	16,970 00
Dated August 10, 1876.....	35,000 00
Dated September 28, 1876, bearing interest from September 28, 1876.....	11,000 00—\$ 62,970 00
Dated June 13, 1877.....	15,541 48

Aggregate amount invested to this date..... \$354,811 48

REPORTS

OF

COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS,

FOR THE

FISCAL YEAR ENDING AUGUST 31, 1878.

BARBOUR COUNTY—PERRY MARTENEY, *Supt.*

I regret to say my annual report is not accurately correct from the fact that the secretaries failed in remitting correct reports to me; and I received them at such a late date, I did not return them for correction as the law directs; but with what change I could make from my own knowledge, remit the same to you as sent to me. I think the statistical part of my report is correct, but the financial part I cannot vouch for, as being accurately correct. However I cannot blame secretaries much for imperfect reports, as their salaries are so meager that they will not give the attention and time that the office demands.

I feel safe in saying that during the past year, the school work of Barbour county has been well done, and that considerable progress has been made, but there is still great room for improvement. Many mere boys and girls (especially in attainments) are inspired with the idea that their mission is to teach, and they enjoy a cheerful confidence in their ability to draw water from a dry cistern. Good teachers are the great want of our common school machinery.

I would welcome almost any plan adopted by our Legislature, affording a fair prospect for their improvement.

On my annual visits last winter, I found too much "popular teaching" (telling the pupils just what to do to obtain a given result) instead of instructions that will set the whole reasoning powers of the pupils at work. The latter is all that a teacher should do under the head of oral instruction. Under such a system we may not get showy results in our schools on examinations, but we will have laid

the foundation for a better and more exalted manhood—such a position as God intended man should occupy. But notwithstanding our many inefficient teachers, we have some who are earnest, faithful and efficient, the effect of whose labor can be seen in the improvement of our schools.

In some districts there is very little encouragement for the better teachers to seek employment. Some Boards of Education continue to hire No. 3 and No. 4 teachers, and pay them almost as much as No. 1 and No. 2, only one and two dollars difference on the grade of certificate. I hope they will remedy this in another school year.

The examiners of this county continue to raise the standard of examinations, and ere long I think Barbour will have thorough teachers throughout the entire county.

We are deeply impressed with the fact that many of our teachers are sadly deficient in general information. Their thoughts seem to be limited to the very rudiments of the primary branches which they are required to teach, while the great field of general knowledge is to them an unexplored country, a trackless region which they have no desire to investigate or to travel. A higher, a broader, a better and a more thorough culture is demanded, and I am confident that soon our teachers will reach the desired standard if they teach. Teachers ought to know much more than the law requires, or they are expected to teach; and it is a sad commentary on our educational "status," that of many things with which every intelligent person should be familiar, many of our teachers have only vague and indefinite ideas. I am glad to say that the regular attendance the past year was better than any previous year. We have 4,152 youths in the county, 3,142 attended school. The average attendance was 2,004, but not as great as it should have been by far. The body will not grow and be healthy if food is not taken regularly. It is not conducive to health to fast for a week and then load the stomach. It is not in accordance with physiological law to exercise the muscles violently for a stated time and then cease all exercise for the same or greater length of time. So it is with the mind; mental food and exercise must be taken regularly, and in proper quantities, and of proper kind, if the mind is properly developed. The pupil who is absent but for one day, finds when he comes to recitation, that he has lost something, the want of which will impede his progress. If he is absent for a week, he finds on his return a large amount of hard work to be accomplished before he can regain his standing in his class. Many, on account of unnecessary absence, become discouraged, lose all interest in their studies in the school, cease to make any effort to improve, and often are the cause of disorder and disaffection when otherwise there would have been harmony. I trust the attendance the coming school year will be much greater than previously. I shall use every effort to secure it.

Our Institute last December and January was a grand success; seventy-three teachers were enrolled; average attendance for the eight days was seventy. The following distinguished scholars were with us during the session: Prof. J. R. Thompson, of West Virginia University; Prof. W. Coldgrove, of West Virginia College; Geo. W. Atkinson, of Wheeling; J. W. Price, of Beverly, and A. F. Wilmoth, County Superintendent of Randolph county. I am sure many of

our teachers were stimulated by the lectures and teachings of these noted men, and will, I have no doubt, take higher grounds in their profession. Much interest was manifested by the public at large, and all were benefited who attended. I think the law should say when the Institute should be held; some want it before the schools begin, others after schools close, and others during the session of schools in the winter. Some of the Boards of Education oppose it altogether, and legislate, and really try to prevent teachers from attending. I hope the coming Legislature will designate the time.

Our "Peabody Institute," in August last, conducted by Prof. Joseph McMurren, was interesting and profitable, but the attendance was small. I think the law should be compulsory in regard to these Institutes, as well as our county Institutes.

We had three colored schools this year; I visited each and found them progressing well.

I have adopted the grading system, which I expect to put into operation next year. I am so far favorably impressed with it. I have the names of about one hundred pupils, who expect to complete the primary branches the coming year. There has been great advancement in some of our districts, particularly those that secured No. 1 and No. 2 certificates. I have noticed the contrast for the last three years, and am convinced, as well as the public, that we need more No. 1 teachers and less of the other grades.

There were three graded schools taught in the county the past year: one at Philippi, by J. S. Cornwell; one at Hopewell, by D. W. Shaw; and one at Meadowville by myself. A number of teachers were present at each of these schools, and made rapid progress. A few also have been attending the State Normal Schools, at Glenville and Fairmont; also some were attending the West Virginia College and West Virginia University.

I think our teachers will compare favorably with the teachers of adjacent counties, and as our examinations are becoming more rigid, ere long we will have none but first-class teachers. Believing I have said my say, in conclusion I must return my thanks to the people for their kindness, encouragement and aid in trying to advance the cause of education in Barbour, hoping that we all, ultimately, may reap a rich reward.

TEACHERS, AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

Miss L M Keyser	1	E A Waugh	1
Miss Nora Moore	1	H A Strader.....	3
Miss Willa Groves	1	J W Moore.....	3
Miss Mollie Board	2	E D Gall	2
Miss Mattie V Teter	2	E H Campton.....	1
Miss Libbie A Wolf	2	J M Compton.....	3
Miss Sallie Phillips	2	L M La Follatie	1
Miss Mattie Teter	1	F W Harris.....	2
Miss Katie Goodman	3	J M Godwin	2
Miss Lucella Douglass	1	D W Shaw.....	1
Miss Bertie Cole (colored)	1	I F Right.....	2
Miss Nancy Sipes	3	J R Phillips	1
Miss Tebe D Harris	3	J W Gawthorpe	1
Miss Mollie A Mayo	3	Robert W. Tapp.....	2
Miss Helen St Charles	1	Nelson Peck	1
Miss Roanna Pepper	2	Martin Madden.....	3
Miss S M Newlon.....	2	A J Hathaway.....	3

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES—*Continued.*

Miss Lanna Rightinno.....	3	C W. Miller.....	3
Miss Mollie E. Gould.....	1	Isaac N. Newman.....	3
Mrs M E Harris.....	1	W P Whitmore.....	2
Mrs C V Coonts.....	2	J W Poling.....	3
J S Cromwell.....	1	Stewart Wilmoth.....	1
Lewis W. Talbott.....	3	John L Leonard.....	1
A C McDaniel.....	2	F P Madden.....	2
C M Cromwell.....	1	R R Rohr.....	2
L L Banon.....	1	R J Dunham.....	2
J W Shank.....	1	J G Digman.....	4
J J Madden.....	1	J A Hillard.....	2
C F Teter.....	1	John W Freeman.....	3
Israel Phillips (colored).....	4	J G Stalnaker.....	1
L C Bennett.....	4	J F Hartman.....	2
John F Hunt.....	3	W D Zinn.....	1
T B Durette.....	1	A J Hartman.....	1
J M Curkendall.....	1	C W Reger.....	3
John F Durkin.....	2	F M Talbott.....	2
J G Sinclair.....	3	Wm R Bennett.....	2
R J Proudfoot.....	4	Geo W Heltzel.....	2
F A Poling.....	4	J L Malcomb.....	1
S L Poling.....	3	J M Burgers.....	2
Wm H McDaniel.....	3	Wm U Showalter.....	3
S S Talbott.....	2	Abner Hanes.....	3
Jno Hathaway.....	1	J F Newlon.....	1
W K Bowers.....	1	C M Moore.....	2
Lewis W Robinson.....	3	J N Zinn.....	2
S S Zinn.....	1	Columbus Kelley.....	1
B Baker.....	1	M E Lawson.....	1
Geo W Baughman.....	2	J R Mathers.....	1
C W Cox.....	1	Miss Kate Wood.....	2
W S Shurtleff.....	1		

BERKELEY COUNTY.—E. S. TABLER, *Supt.*

In submitting this annual report, I offer as an apology for any seeming lack of knowledge in the school affairs of the county, the fact that I have but recently been called to the duties of County Superintendent. From circumstances beyond my control I have been prevented from visiting quite all the schools; yet from diligent inquiry find them in a flourishing condition.

The system is gaining in favor, which has contributed in a great measure to the employment of teachers raised within the county. The teachers labored faithfully, and as an acknowledgment quite all of them are employed to continue their schools another term. Rigid examinations are proving beneficial. Incompetent teachers are dropping out of the profession for lack of employment. Most of the districts are refusing lower grades of certificates than No. 2. Teachers and patrons hail with pleasure the raising of the standard for normal diplomas. They have caused a good deal of dissatisfaction.

Gerrardstown treated a portion of two sub-districts not conveniently provided for to a new school house.

In Opequon a worthless log house was substituted with a fine substantial brick.

Compulsory institute attendance promises to work well. The deceased Superintendent appointed district institutes for the year. These were of great benefit to most teachers. Yet the small number of teachers assigned to each with one-day meetings caused their usefulness to fall below the intent of the law.

We should like more specific legislation in sec. 30 of the school law, with reference to the disposition of the remaining two days where

the schools run for a longer term than four months, as they do in most districts.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

Griffith, Anna E.....	1	Williamson, Susan S.....	2
Vogel, Geo B.....	3	Royer, H E.....	1
Johnson, Mrs Dr.....	1	Reed, Henry (colored).....	5
Dodd, Samuel L.....	1	Davis, J P.....	2
Evans, J. W. B.....	2	Mohler, Ruby S.....	3
Vanmeter, Mary A.....	2	Walsh, Mrs L A.....	2
Wayble, Cyrus H.....	1	Young, A B (colored).....	4
Albright Moses G.....	1	Green, George, (colored).....	4
Sheffer Jennie.....	1	Roberts, B H (colored).....	3
Harley Laura V.....	1	Lee, David, (colored).....	4
Pitzer Wm A.....	1	Swartz, Wm (colored).....	3
Miller, Amos R.....	2	Mosby, Nicholas, (colored).....	4
McKown, John F.....	2	Johnson, Sallie E (colored).....	4
Griffith, D Smith.....	2	Taylor, Kate O (colored).....	2
Noss, CH.....	2	Wood, Nathaniel (colored).....	4
Fravel, F M.....	1	Carter, Henry (colored).....	3
McKune, Jennie.....	1	Tabler, G. W. M.....	2
Dodd, David H.....	2	Frye Eugene.....	3
Harbaugh, M K.....	2	Kearney, Mrs A P.....	2
Butts, H S.....	2	Newkirk, Sallie.....	2
Barnett, Georgie E.....	2	Miller, J P K.....	2
Eversole, Wm.....	2	Hesse, Wm.....	4
Pauling John T.....	1	Johnson, L L.....	2
Newcomer, George.....	4	Ryon, R H.....	1
McKown, Mary Ann.....	3	Rhodes, S C.....	2
Miller, Ida V.....	3	Stump, H V.....	1
Vanmeter, George W.....	3	Robinson, James.....	3
Morgan, Josephine.....	3	Kettering, John T.....	2
Hockman, Isaac M.....	3	Myres, James W.....	2
Kerley, Ella D.....	3	Garrett, R C.....	1
Cooper, Charles W.....	3	Graham, A M.....	1
Downs, J. A.....	3	Evans, Henry C.....	2
Fisher, W. P (colored).....	4	Triplett, J H.....	2
Shepherd, Champ.....	1	Hall, I N.....	1
Foltz, C. W.....	2	Miller, Charles.....	2
House, J E.....	2	Ranker, Belle.....	2
Butts, M. K.....	2		

BOONE COUNTY.—JOHN MORRIS, *Sup't.*

Herewith you have my report of schools for Boone county, for the year ending August 31, 1878. The reports of the district secretaries were so defective, that I had to go to see several of them to have them explained, and in most cases I had, before I could make my county report, to work up the district reports.

The schools, everything considered, have done well I think. One trustee would work better in this county than three.

The Teachers' Institute has improved the teachers, while the law is unpopular both with the teachers and people.

The Institutes have to be held at times and places that make it inconvenient and expensive for the teachers to attend, and the teachers say they would prefer teaching twenty-two days in the school-room.

The people say it is hard enough to raise money to pay taxes to educate their children, and do not like the idea of paying anything to help educate the teachers.

The commission question between the Boards of Education and our ex-sheriff, M. J. Hopkins, will be tried at our Spring Circuit Court.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

W H H Fletcher.....	1	A W Ownby.....	4
I. F. D. Bowman.....	1	M F Ballard.....	4
E. M. Griffith.....	4	William D Pate.....	1
Isaac L. Dastace.....	2	M J Bradley.....	3
E D Hanna.....	3	T M Bowles.....	2
G M Ball.....	3	Miss L M Samuels.....	1
J B Sheppard.....	4	Lewis Pine.....	3
H V Dunn.....	3	M F Atkins.....	2
Miss M J Gander.....	3	John T Griffith.....	3
Miss Ada A Harless.....	3	Miss S R Keffer.....	2
Miss H A Hopkins.....	3	R M Sandey.....	1
Miss W A Hopkins.....	3	L F Vickers.....	2
John T Barker.....	3	John Maroney.....	3
T M Bowles.....	3	John F Ball.....	3
E M Griffith.....	3	Isaac P Williams.....	2
E M Campbell.....	2	F C James (colored).....	1
Miss R D Keffer.....	3	A W Hammond.....	2
H V Dunn.....	2	W S Hatfield.....	3
S H Campbell.....	2	J W Pierson.....	2
C P Glover.....	3	Lander Foster.....	2
W B Chapman.....	3	Sampson Barton.....	1
William Thomas.....	2	B P Sale.....	1
J B Sayre.....	1	H M Brooks.....	2
B S Kager.....	3	H F Bailey.....	1
Miss Angeline Arcres.....	1	Miss Media Workman.....	2
Miss A V Pixley.....	1		

BRAXTON COUNTY.—THADDEUS G. CUTLIP, *Supt.*

I submit my annual report with the often repeated, though just complaint of County Superintendents, as to the incompleteness of the district reports, which makes it impossible for me to compile mine void of imperfections.

The reports of the secretaries to this office are nearly complete, except the report of the District of Kanawha—this is nearly correct. Much interest was manifested by the various boards in controlling the district affairs, financially. To attend to their duties as they should require much time, and I recommend that the school law be so amended as to allow the members of the board a liberal compensation for their services, and more interest will be taken—reports more correct, and their duties faithfully discharged. To dispense with the services of these officers is inconsistent. The harmonious working of the system is dependent upon them; therefore, they should be paid. To have the duties of their office faithfully performed, a remuneration commensurate with the labor should be allowed.

I visited every school in the county, but one, and found them supplied with teachers, generally efficient, doing all in their power to promote the standard of education. The amendment to the school law requiring thirty-five per cent attendance, awoke the teachers and friends of education generally, from their lethargy, and every effort was made to secure the proper attendance.

The compulsory system of education has been agitated, but the county is too sparsely populated for this tyrannical system. The advocates claim that many parents, whose means are sufficient to furnish their children with books and other necessities, and yet they exercise no desire to supply their wants or send them to school.

I exercised every precaution to prevent the further use of books which were not authorized by law.

The propriety of Teachers' Institutes is, by some, questioned. Notwithstanding all this, they are, if properly managed, one of the paramount features of this wise and good system, the object being to bring about a uniformity in the art of teaching, and mutually furnish each other with the result of their experience, and discuss and present the best modes of teaching.

The antagonistic disposition previously existing against the common school system is rapidly wearing away, as the change for good is seen and acknowledged. It is a fact that where a community encourages education, the people are virtuous and prosperous.

Before I close, I must express my thanks to the citizens of Braxton for the hospitality they have shown me while visiting the schools under my charge. I feel proud of the successful working of the system, and believe the time is approaching when all will send their children to school, and lay the compulsory idea in the dust of fiction to be remembered only as a folly of the past. May the great scholastic work go on ever increasing till West Virginia shall occupy a prominent position among the proud educated States of this glorious republic.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

J W Hanna	1	J F Thayer.....	1
L A P Friend.....	1	John Bender.....	2
W H Jack	1	P C Roberts	2
John S Garee	2	M F Duffield.....	3
P L Curry	2	Joseph A Pierson.....	1
Joseph A Pierson.....	2	J C Saulsbury.....	1
Scott Nottingham.....	1	M Rose	2
W S Hamner.....	1	J M Stewart	2
J W Humphreys	1	J G Prime	1
C W Ware	2	S N Rollyson.....	3
B F Hamrick	3	L W Rollyson	2
A M Frame.....	3	M B Rollyson.....	2
G C Squires	2	J P Rollyson.....	2
J F Thayer.....	2	S T Griffin	1
L S Dillers	3	C L Engle	1
V B Frame	2	A Hamric	3
R A Henderson	3	W E Haymond	3
Joseph A Pearson.....	0	A J Saulsbury.....	1
Stewart Bird.....	4	G W Lewis (colored)	5
E G Garee	2	Miss I M Pierson	2
E A Cutlip.....	2	Miss M A Dailey.....	2
J W Friend	5	Miss M D Hall	1
S B Bowyer.....	?	Miss M S Hammer	3
R J Gibson	3	Miss M E Haymond.....	3
Newt Hamric.....	2	Miss M A Daily.....	1
M F Gibson	1	Miss I E Frame.....	5
A Hamric	3	Miss Mintie Singleton	2
M F Duffield.....	4	Miss M R Day.....	1
John Bender.....	5	Miss M E Berry.....	1
J R Rusmiser.....	1	Mrs C Bartlett.....	2
S S Stonstreet.....	1	Miss L J Berry	4
J R Shock	2	Miss A J Haymond.....	4
E V Frame	2	Miss M S Hammer.....	2
D S Morton	1	Miss E M McCoy.....	2
G R Gibson	2	Miss A J Haymond.....	3
R A Henderson	2	Miss M A Willoughby	4
Wm Kelly	3	Miss J E Frame	3
L S Dillen.....	2	Miss M M Bland	2
J R Denison	3	Miss Annie Sprigg	2
L J Berrv.....	2	Miss E C Nixon	2
J H Morrison	3	Miss Ella Berry.....	3
J W Friend	4	Miss Maggie Moore.....	3
A M Frame	2	Miss L J Berry	3
Wm H Greene	1	Mrs J A Willoughby.....	3
J F Hamric	3	Mrs C A Roberts.....	3

BROOKE COUNTY.—GEORGE A. BAXTER, *Sup't.*

In transmitting to you this, my first annual report, for the Free Schools of Brooke county, for the school year ending 1877-8, I am glad to be able to say that the past year has been one of steady progress and general prosperity in our schools. The Boards of Education, trustees, teachers and the people generally, have manifested a deep interest in the cause of education, and have made praiseworthy efforts to promote the efficiency and usefulness of the schools. It is an encouraging fact, that though "hard times" have caused retrenchment in almost every branch of business, yet the progress of education has been satisfactory to all.

One new school house has been contracted for in Crosscreek District, and will be completed by the first Monday in October. Several houses have been reseatd with new and improved iron frame desks, and many other necessary improvements and repairs have been added.

I visited every school at least twice during the session, and was well pleased with the good order, neatness, prompt and cheerful obedience, hard study and excellent scholarship manifested in almost every case.

On my first visit I spent a day at each school, and did all in my power to make my visit both profitable and pleasant to teacher and pupils, this was as soon as possible after the school term began. Towards the close of the session, I made a second visit, spending half a day with each school, and was very much gratified to find so great advancement in every respect. I was often accompanied by one or more trustees or patrons, and was everywhere met by warm and true hearted friends of education, who gave me a cordial welcome, and many words of cheer. To the officers, teachers, pupils and citizens of the county, for their generous hospitality, I am under many obligations.

Our county Teachers' Institute was well attended; three-fourths of the teachers were present eight days. A four days' session was held in Wellsburg, beginning January 2, at which Prof. Loos, of Bethany, W. Va; Prof. Andrews, of Steubenville, Ohio; and Prof. Hervey, of Wheeling, W. Va., were the principal instructors. The instructions were practical, and the lectures forcible and entertaining. The teachers all took a lively interest in these meetings; and I am certain that much good has been conferred on our schools through this instrumentality, especially in regard to uniformity in methods of instruction.

One-day Institutes were held at different school houses through the county and were attended by large numbers of the citizens, who were favorably impressed with the work going on, and speaking for all interested, we trust the late act of our Legislature, relating to Institutes and teachers attendance upon the same, will add much to their interest, and result in great good to the cause of education in the State.

It is a drawback on our school system that the law requires so much of our Boards of Education, and provides no recompense. Our officers should be paid for every day they spend in attending to their

duties, and the pay of the secretary of the board is altogether too meager. Not until this evil is rectified can we hope to get the right men in the right places, and have the work more faithfully attended to.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

L B Miller.....	1	James E Baxter.....	1
Miss H E Woestell.....	1	J S Campbell.....	2
I W Clemens.....	1	A S Hunter.....	1
H D Hessay.....	2	Miss Lena Gibson.....	1
S L Farrar.....	1	Miss M Campbell.....	2
Charles Kyle.....	1	John Gibson.....	2
Samuel Barber.....	1	Harrie Hervey.....	1
Mrs C E Burt.....	1	Miss E G Hunter.....	1
Miss S A Clark.....	1	Miss Rose Wheeler.....	1
D E Biggs.....	1	Miss R B Anderson.....	1
Miss M H Right.....	1	Miss J E Smith.....	1
A C Snediker.....	1	Miss Racheal Lee.....	1
J A Cox.....	1	Mrs C Sharp.....	2
Mrs A M DeVore.....	1	Mrs M C Anderson.....	1
V E Tarr.....	1	J F Cree.....	1
W A Mooney.....	2	Miss M J Cox.....	1
W F Hervey.....	2	J W Hindman.....	2
James Gibson.....	1	C G Gullett.....	1
Miss N Cochran.....	2	J M Reynolds.....	1
Miss Trecla Hanlin.....	1	James Hurdman.....	1
Samuel McGlumphy.....	1	John P Watt.....	2

CABELL COUNTY.—D. L. DUNCAN, *Sup't.*

In submitting my third annual report, I take pleasure in stating that the general condition of the school interest of our county has been gradually, but continually improving.

Notwithstanding the financial pressure through which we are passing, our noble and generous people have always voted for the levies; and in several of our districts, they have voluntarily extended the time of the schools, so that the average of our school term has been between five and six months.

The qualifications of our teachers are, year by year, improving, and the result is better management, and better methods of teaching in our schools.

Our school officers have generally shown a disposition so serve the people faithfully, and have succeeded in greatly improving the school houses and school facilities of the county.

The Independent District of Huntington has recently built a neat and comfortable school house, on the McCoy road, near the city. This gives the young and flourishing city of Huntington eight schools.

In the town of Guyandotte, the Board of Education will soon have completed an excellent brick building, well located, well constructed, and well arranged in all its appliances.

The Board of Education of Grant District has erected a suitable frame building, in the town of Milton, and established a district graded school.

As I had the honor of teaching in this school, it does not become me to speak of its success, but I hope to see the day when the schools in the city of Huntington, and the towns of Guyandotte, Barboursville and Milton, shall all be regularly and strictly graded. Without undertaking to discuss the comparative advantages of graded schools, I may be allowed to express the opinion that the idea of promotion

is the strongest, and most healthful incentive that can be held out to the mind of a child; and that schools of this character furnish the means of somewhat higher education at home.

But, the most gratifying and encouraging item, that I have to report, is the marked improvement in the interest felt and manifested by our citizens generally, in the matter of educating the rising generation. This I regard the most hopeful indication; for no amount of legislation, nor of school facilities, can ever educate a people, unless they themselves can be made willing to receive it.

The amendments to the school law, made at the last session of the Legislature were in the main, wise and salutary; but, in my humble opinion, other changes need to be made. I would very modestly and humbly suggest a few of the difficulties that I think might be easily remedied.

1st. The financial accounts are generally incorrectly kept, and incorrrectly reported. I do not think that this can ever be effectually remedied, until the account of a whole county shall be kept on *one set of books*. This might be accomplished by making the County Superintendent the county secretary, and having the district secretaries report to him monthly, in detail.

2d. I must renew my former suggestion, that the Legislature should make contracts with publishers for the text books, that are required to be used in the free schools of this State, at a specified price for each book; and it should be unlawful for any merchant or other person to receive, or require from any pupil of any free school of this State, more than the State contract price for any such book. This could be done without expense, and would save to the hard-working, poor people of our State, thousands of dollars annually. The publishing of the text books for a State is a "big thing," and the State is "good pay." The publishers could afford to deliver the books, or keep them on deposit, at convenient points throughout the State, at less prices than they charge the merchants at wholesale, and the agents could furnish them to the people at about one-half of what they have heretofore been paying.

3d. The neglect, or refusal on the part of parents and guardians to send their children and wards to school is probably the greatest of all the hindrances to the progress of free school education in the State; and calls more imperatively, and more urgently upon the talent, the wisdom, and the skill of our legislators, than any other subject connected with our schools.

4th. The school year should begin about the 1st of June, so that the levies could be laid more intelligently, and the assessor might extend them on his books, prior to the time for delivering them to the sheriff.

5th. Outgoing school officers should be required to make the reports pertaining to their times of service.

6th County Superintendents should be required to spend their whole time in official work.

7th. Members of the Board of Education should be allowed a reasonable per diem compensation for their services—say \$1.50 per day, for the time spent in actual attendance upon meetings of the Board, not to exceed twelve days in any one year,

8th. The enumeration of youth should be taken and verified by the trustees.

9th. The County Board of Examiners should not be allowed to grant certificates inferior to grade No. 3.

10th. The school law should be re-arranged, condensed and made so that it could be easily understood.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

Miss Mollie Henderson	3	Isaac F Weed	2
Miss N E Walton	3	G W Priddy	2
Miss Alice Daniels	2	W A Bishop	1
Miss Anna G Vandiver	1	A U Laidley	2
Miss F Emma Beuhring	1	Samuel Eubank (colored)	3
Miss A M Tiernan	1	L W Simpson	2
Miss Hattie Abbott	1	M A Bias	2
Miss Lizzie Stone	1	M S Bias	2
Miss Emma Swan	2	G W McKendree	2
Miss A M Sidebottom	2	D L Irvin	2
Miss Emma Blake	2	James E Rose	3
Miss Emma McComas	2	John Wigal	1
Miss Sallie Roberts	2	John Turley	2
Miss Emma L Wiseman	2	D F Lemarr	2
Miss Rosa Miller	2	J F Herndon	2
Miss Effie Sayre	2	T B Summers	1
Miss Lizzie Huxham	1	E L Summers	2
Miss Mary M Johnson	1	Thomas Dundas	1
Miss S Alice Hoff	1	J R F Moseley	2
Miss Fannie R Morris	2	J T Lackland	1
Miss Sallie E Morris	2	Henderson Davis	1
Miss Viola Robinson	3	P H Childers	2
Mrs Addie Holderby	1	D B Childers	3
Mrs S K Saunders	2	H J Baumgardner	2
Mrs Harriet Hall	2	H F Melton	2
Rev J C Rece	1	George B Austin	2
Rev L B Madison	2	William C Bramblet	1
Rev V B Jones	2	S H Mossman	2
Rev John D Carter	2	R C Vass	1
Dr C Morrison	1	M F Jordan	2
Dr J T Unsel	2	J F Lambert	2
L A Walton	3	R T Phillips	1
M H Miller	3	H L Garlic	3
Charles A Walton	3	L A Braley	1
W S Peters (colored)	3	W S Rece	2
Theodore Wilson (colored)	2	John J Rousey	2
William F James (colored)	2	James L Thornburg	1
T E Gardner	3	C E Roach (revoked)	3
George W McLaughlin	2	Ross Adkins	3
R H Calaway (colored)	4	W W Gwinn	2
W O Atkeson	2		

CALHOUN COUNTY.—F. M. FERRELL, Supt.

I hereby submit to you the annual report of the County Superintendent of Free Schools of Calhoun county, for the school year ending with the 31st of August, 1878.

During the school year of 1877-8, the schools were generally taught to the satisfaction of patrons of the respective schools. There was a four-month school in most of the school districts. Some had more, and some less, that is in one term. The whole cost of running the schools, there being 1,732 pupils, was \$5,014.22, and the average cost per pupil was \$2.31; average cost per pupil of all attending school, \$4.00; average cost per pupil based on daily attendance, \$5.70; whole number of months taught during the year, 150; average cost per month of running the schools of Calhoun, \$33.41; the aggregate value of all school property, \$10,297.00, which is much below the first cost of the

school property of the county. There were thirty-six school districts in the county at the beginning of the school year. During the school year, the Board of Education of Lee district created two new districts and the Board of Education of Sheridan, one, yet many of the districts (school) have only thirty-five or forty pupils, which makes it very hard for the tax-payers to run a four months school in each school district. It is a great disadvantage to the successful working of the system, in the sparsely populated counties, especially, to have too many school districts, that is districts with only thirty-five or forty pupils. The teachers complain that wages are too low, and the people, that taxes are too high; yet the people do all in their power to support a four months school in each school district. I think it would be a happy amendment to the school law, especially to the thinly settled counties, if it was so amended that there could, under no circumstances, be a school district formed with less than fifty youths between the ages of six and twenty-one years, without the assent of the voters in the district in which the school district is sought to be created, and to be approved by the County Superintendent; the creation of the school district not to affect the school districts already created, that is not to reduce the number of youths in school districts already formed below fifty.

The financial condition of the five districts in the county is very fair as to the Teachers' Fund. They are each clear of debt, and Washington, Lee and Centre report a balance from last year. In Washington the Board of Education was able to lower the rate of taxation for Teachers' Fund from fifty cents on the \$100 valuation to forty cents; and for Building Fund from forty to thirty cents on the \$100 valuation. In Centre the Board of Education was able to reduce the rate of taxation for school purposes from fifty cents on the \$100 valuation to forty-five cents. Lee and Sheridan have so burthened themselves with so great a number of school districts in proportion to their wealth that they will not be able to make any reduction of taxes either on School or Building Fund.

The schools of the county are making steady progress. I visited each school in the county, remaining with many a day, and others not more than two hours. I conducted the Teachers' Institutes myself. I held three in the county, aggregating thirteen days.

The per cent. of those attending school was seventy-two of the whole number of youths entitled to attend school. The per cent. of daily attendance was fifty of the whole number of youths in the county entitled to attend school.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

H A Wolverton.....	2	C W Ferrell.....	1
E F Marshal	3	W W Ogden.....	2
Dorcas Ferrell.....	3	S K Cain.....	5
Emma Knight	2	W M Bennett.....	2
V J Umstead.....	3	Retta Devlin.....	1
Tilda Knight.....	3	James Dushy.....	3
L H Trippet.....	1	W S Ferrell.....	3
A M Fairmont.....	3	Ellott Chenoworth.....	3
S A Ayers.....	1	S D Minney.....	5
Ephraim Bee.....	1	Virginia Riddel.....	3
W H Ayers.....	1	M E Knotts.....	3

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES—*Continued.*

D Upton.....	2	P W Broffey.....	2
J W Teterick.....	2	D W Knight.....	2
L S Witte.....	4	R W Hall.....	1
C J B Ferrell.....	3	E F Chenoweth.....	2
A E Keller.....	2	D C Sturm.....	1
H W Petit.....	2	Alertha Sturm.....	3
W C Marks.....	1	T K Ferrell.....	2
G Johnson.....	1	H C Goodkryht.....	2
J O Chipstine.....	2	Rev. Haynes.....	3
H C Lockney.....	2	Ella Means.....	3
C A Walker.....	1	J W Pell.....	1

CLAY COUNTY.—JOHN SANDS, *Sup't.*

The thing most to be regretted, that I see in regard to the free schools, is a disposition not to profit by the many advantages offered by the school law; although I don't doubt that a change in the school law in some instances would be better, I believe that a stricter adherence to the law as it is, would be far better than any change.

The school law in regard to Teachers' Institutes will also do very well as it is, if it be properly carried through. I believe it can be made a success, and a great benefit.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

Sabre Fitzwater.....	3	Mary J Weeks.....	2
Vannelt Neil.....	4	C S Hall.....	1
B M Rogers.....	1	Scott Nottingham.....	1
C P Wilson.....	1	Oceola Nottingham.....	3
S H Ashly.....	1	Forsythe Stephenson.....	2
Abraham Wilson.....	2	Jasper Given.....	2
H A Wilson.....	2	Robert Chenoweth.....	3
William T Hamric.....	2	W W Ogden.....	2
G W T Morton.....	2	Endora Carden.....	2
H L Morris.....	2	R E Lesueur.....	2
J B Morris.....	1	Charles F Walker.....	2
Alexander Summers.....	2	Jacob Keith.....	3
J T Moore.....	2	J B Nottingham.....	3
L P Rogers.....	2	Morgan S Triplett.....	3
J M Grose.....	1	Jasper Young.....	1
Delorane Upton.....	1		

DODDRIDGE COUNTY.—J. V. BLAIR, *Supt.*

I herewith transmit my annual report for the scholastic year ending August 31, 1878. The part thereof pertaining to finance is not altogether reliable, as I could not, after urgent effort and long delay, get correct financial reports from the secretaries of the Boards of Education.

Our schools are slowly growing in beauty and strength; but the repeated reduction of teachers' salaries, especially for the higher grades, has a tendency to withdraw from them the nurture and stimulant necessary to a healthy growth; and if this reduction is protracted from year to year, as in the past, the scholastic fruit that otherwise would have matured and ripened, will knarl, take the "dry rot" and fall to the ground unnutritious. The people do not recognize the fact, that in order to have first-class schools, first-class talent must be employed; and that to keep first-class talent in the school room teaching must be made as lucrative as the other professions.

A high school has been established according to law in Central District. A fine frame building suitable therefor, has been erected, and a successful school of about six months, has been taught therein since its completion.

The school law, if I may be permitted to speak in regard to it now, does not carry out the principle upon which the Free School system is based. Our system of Free Schools is based, as I understand it, upon the broad and philanthropic principle that the *wealth of the State should educate the youths of the State*. But this principle is not carried out under the present system of local levies. It is only partially so, and that is so far as the State tax of ten cents on the \$100 valuation for general school purposes, goes. In some of the poorer counties of the State, the Free Schools become oppressive, and tend to demoralize the system. It is often the case in such counties that the local levy has to be laid to the extent of the law (fifty cents) in order to run the schools four months in the year, and drain the State School Fund, while in the wealthier counties the local levy is but a pittance. Is this an equalization of taxation? Is this the wealth of the State educating the youths of the State? I should think not, and were the people of the State to rise *en masse* and answer, that answer would be in the negative. We now plainly see that only one corner of the building we are erecting, rests upon the *true foundation*.

The State School Fund should be increased until it is sufficient to run the schools of the State not less than four months in the year, independent of local levies; and then at the discretion of the voters of each school district, a local levy not to exceed twenty cents, might be permitted for the purpose of carrying the schools on longer, if so desired. This would be carrying out nearer the grand principle upon which the school system is based. This can be accomplished by levying a State tax of from twenty to twenty-five cents on the \$100 valuation, which can be regulated from year to year by the "Board of the School Fund." I hope our Legislature the coming session, will consider this subject in its true light, and act accordingly. With a heart-felt desire to see our system of public instruction placed upon its true foundation, and a hope that our schools may become more, and more prosperous, I submit this report.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

Henry Ash.....	1	Genevra Bee.....	3
Mary A Schutte.....	1	Claude Shannon.....	3
*Lillie M Atkinson.....	1	B B Randall.....	3
Thomas Shaw.....	1	Garl Doak.....	3
*Minnie E Martin.....	1	Henry Enlow.....	3
S F Lowther.....	1	Julia E Offutte.....	3
C H Davis.....	1	M L Chidester.....	3
M S Summers.....	2	John A Davis.....	3
Camden Sommers.....	2	David A McLain.....	3
James B Brennan.....	2	Fannie McGill.....	3
T P Douglass.....	2	Mattie C Ehrette.....	3
J P Freeman.....	2	S G Zinn.....	3
M S Hanes.....	2	M F Hickman.....	3
Annie V Weekly.....	2	W A McLain.....	3
Hettie M Jeffrey.....	2	R Atherton.....	3
*Lizzie J Dutton.....	2	Minda Underwood.....	3
Lizzie Hickman.....	2	J S Archbold.....	3
Ella Charter.....	2	Robert McLain.....	3

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES—*Continued.*

F N Williams.....	2	M E McLain.....	3
Jesse H Gain.....	2	Thomas J Conley..	3
C L Polan.....	2	Charles A Charter..	3
J P Brand.....	2	John R Roberts..	4
E L Davis.....	2	John T. Morford.....	4
F Herbert Smith.....	2	J M Stutler.....	4
May S Jeffrey.....	2	J L Stradley ..	4
M W Davis.....	2	*Flora M. Shepherd ..	4
Dixon Ash.....	2	D E Stutler.....	4
Mary A Strickling.....	2	James E Strother.....	4
Vena M Potter.....	2	Silas Smith.....	4
A S Britton.....	3	M J Harbert ..	4
David Rose.....	3	Sila B Allen.....	4
Penelope Powell.....	3	W P Allen.....	4
Florence O Allen.....	3	Albert Strickling.....	4
Lizzie Langfitt.....	3	Charles F West ..	4
A J Gaskins.....	3	Albert E Strickling ..	4
Mary J Ripley ..	3	Laura A Kinney.....	4
Lizzie Southworth.....	3		

*Teachers from another State.

FAYETTE COUNTY.—D. B. EASLEY, *Supt.*

In my experience with the Free Schools of West Virginia, I have found that the chief difficulty attending the successful working of the Free School system, is incompetent Boards of Education. They are too often selected not for their qualification but from the fact that they are willing to serve, while no one else will; and they are too often induced to accept the office from the fact that there are men in every vicinity who are flattered by the thought of being elected to an office whether it be one of profit or not; and thus men of this class are elected to this responsible position who after their induction into office become like Paul's heathen, "a law unto themselves," and the schools of their district suffer thereby; while in many cases men are elected who are good and honest men, and who conscientiously strive to perform the duties of their office, but who from want of education and the necessary business qualifications are wholly unable to perform their duties intelligently. The reason why school districts are so often behindhand in their financial affairs, is that there is no member of the board who can make the necessary calculations to keep the affairs of the district in a sound condition. As a remedy for this evil I would recommend that members of the Board of Education be appointed either by the State Superintendent of Schools or by the Governor, and that the county courts be required to recommend suitable persons for such appointments; that they be allowed such compensation for their time and labor as will not make it burdensome either to themselves or the tax payers of their district, and to meet this extra expense, I would recommend the abolition of the office of County Superintendent, and the fund that is now used in paying their salary, would in my opinion, amply pay competent men, and men of education, for their services as members of the Board of Education. A President of the Board of Examiners whose duty it should be to make the necessary reports, and receive and distribute blanks would in my opinion accomplish as much good as is now accomplished by the system of County Superintendents; and the salaries now paid to the County Superintendents, would I think pay both the Boards of Education and the President of the Board of Examiners. I

have arrived at this conclusion after having served one year as County Superintendent of Free Schools, and I think a moments reflection will convince most men who have observed the working of our Free School system, that my conclusion is correct, at least as far as the abolition of the office of County Superintendent is concerned. They are required to visit each school at least once during the session, and I believe it is not customary for them to make their visits more frequently than the law requires, even if they come up to the requirements of law.

The duration of these visits is from a few minutes to a half day, during which their custom as I have observed it, is to ask a few questions with a view to puzzling the school, which usually are not answered even if the same questions would have been answered if asked by the teacher, and this is quite natural from the fact that scholars are usually taught to look out for the County Superintendent and to expect a mental castigation when he comes, and I am sorry to say they are frequently not disappointed on his arrival. The only other thing which I can see that they are empowered to do is to give the teachers advice which must be done privately, and as they do not wish to call the teacher from his school for this purpose it is most frequently not done at all, even if thought to be needed; and there is a drawback to the good that might be accomplished by this, which is that it frequently might be more effective if given by the teacher and taken by the County Superintendent.

Another difficulty under which the thinly settled counties labor, is that owing to the low assessments of their wild lands and the lack of other property, a levy to the extent of the law will hardly continue their school for four months, while the thickly settled districts can by levying from ten to twenty cents on the one hundred dollars worth of property continue their schools for six and eight months.

The result is to keep down the poor counties and build up the rich ones. A uniform state tax sufficient to maintain the schools entirely as a State Institution would remedy this defect and provide a more efficient system of education without being burdensome to the people.

The system of Teachers' Institutes will (I think) in time be productive of much good, but it is but imperfectly organized at present.

In my own county I have found it impossible to hold County Institutes and require all teachers to attend, owing to the reduction of their wages to a mere pittance. I am satisfied that they cannot afford under the present wages to pay their expenses and attend an Institute at a distance from their homes, and so have permitted the organization of District Institutes, so that all can attend without any considerable expense, but I am satisfied that the proper plan would be for the County Superintendent and Board of Examiners to hold an Institute at the commencement of the school year, to continue for eight days and at the end of which hold their examination, thus they could better judge of the qualifications of the applicants and in my opinion more good could be derived from an Institute so held.

Much more could doubtless be said, and in an abler manner concerning the defects of our present school law and something perhaps in its praise, but the foregoing is no doubt sufficient of the kind.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

W A Amick.....	2	J C Hall	2
Miss Lizzie C. Bates	1	A Hanna.....	1
Miss Mollie Brown.....	1	R Hanna.....	2
G W Bowers.....	2	Alexander James (colored).....	3
C A Bryant.....	2	W M Miller.....	2
Wm F Boone.....	3	M T Moore.....	2
J A Boone.....	3	John R McNutt.....	1
J H Burdett.....	3	R F Mosely.....	1
George J Bennett.....	3	N O McCutcheon.....	2
J C Cavendish.....	1	Mrs Emma McCutcheon.....	2
A F Crookshanks	2	F C McVey.....	3
A A Cavendish.....	4	H Pearson.....	2
Milton Curtis.....	2	S P Pearis.....	1
S M Campbell.....	2	W H Renick.....	3
J R Calloway.....	2	Miss S Roles.....	2
Miss M J Cavendish.....	2	Wm Ross (colored).....	1
Miss M E Dews.....	1	H B Rice (colored).....	2
Miss N J Dews.....	2	R B Settle.....	2
A R Dickerson.....	1	H J Tucker.....	1
O A Darlington.....	2	J S Thurmond.....	2
J H Dunn.....	2	R W Tench.....	2
H C Dietz.....	2	M D Walker.....	2
J A Eary.....	2	A C Williams	2
T E Edwards.....	1	L M Woolwine.....	2
W J Farr.....	1	C A Walker.....	3
J R Ford.....	2	J M Williams.....	3
Miss E J Flanagan.....	3	S J Woods.....	2
L C Fishback	1	Mrs M A Wristen.....	2
George D Haynes.....	2	A T White.....	3
G F Henry.....	1	Mexico Van Pelt.....	2
Miss S M Hagerman.....	1	Miss Virginia Young.....	1
Miss N C Hendrick.....	1	J H Young.....	1
M F Henry.....	2		

GILMER COUNTY.—JOHN S. WITHERS, *Sup't.*

I herewith transmit you my first annual report of Free Schools for Gilmer county.

I have delayed it until this late hour hoping to be able by doing so, to give you a full and correct report of my county. The reports of some of the secretaries have been changed and rechanged, but in spite of the time consumed in making out these reports, they are so incomplete that it is impossible for me to make you any other than to some extent a faulty report.

The financial report especially, is unsatisfactory. It appears from the books of all the secretaries, that there has been no complete settlement with the sheriff of this county for any year since about 1874. There appears to be no balance either charged or credited to the sheriff at the beginning of any school year since the time I have indicated. We are now however, trying to settle up and close these complicated accounts, and hope by next year to give a correct report from this county.

With the exception I have mentioned the school system is working well. We have fifty-five comfortable school houses, most of which are tolerably well seated.

The Branch Normal School, of Glenville, has done much towards improved the grade of teachers in this county in the last few years, and our teachers as a class, are second to no body of teachers in any rural county in the State.

The daily average attendance of the Independent District school of Glenville during this year, has been comparatively light which was

in a great measure owing to the fact that many of the pupils attended the Normal School under State appointments and otherwise.

This year I held Institutes in the various districts of the county, which were reasonably well attended considering this was the first year of their introduction into the county. I consider however, that County Institutes are preferable, and next year I will adopt them instead.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

F J Burdett.....	2	O C McQuain	2
P W Bruffy.....	2	B W Meadows	2
F T Bush.....	1	Miss Biddy McDonald	3
S G Burk.....	4	Henry Neff	2
A J Barr.....	1	Jasper Nutter.....	3
Miss Emma Brannan.....	2	Melville Rutherford	5
Miss Ella F Brannan	1	S F Riddle	2
James Collins.....	5	A J Rymer	2
D S Coberly.....	3	John R Shock	2
Elliott Chinnowith.....	2	T V Shock.....	2
Miss Mary Cather.....	2	J H Scales.....	2
H B Davis.....	2	G J Stack	1
J C Engle.....	4	W S Stump.....	2
Thomas Gilooly.....	5	A W Stalnaker	3
Minor Hurst.....	5	Miss Lucy J Stout.	3
Charles B Holt.....	1	Miss Sophie Springston.....	2
S W Hanson	1	A J Woofter.....	1
A B Harris	1	C F West.....	4
Miss R E Hays.....	3	John Waugh.....	2
Miss Bedelia Kenny.....	5	H A Withers	1
C F Law.....	2	Jacob Weaver.....	5
W M Mayhew.....	2	Miss Emma Withers.....	1

GRANT COUNTY.—EDWARD F. VOSSLER.

Again I must preface my annual report with a prayer to excuse the delay of its return. Gladly would I have sent it, as I ought, a month ago, could I have sooner collected the many items needed for its completion. Again the authorities of the Harmon Independent School District have been the derelicts. Their report reached me only a few days ago. I believe, however, the report to be substantially correct and complete. To one who, like myself, has been well acquainted with the public school system of this county since 1866, it is full of instruction and bright promises.

I honestly believe that we have now better school houses, more and better teachers, at less cost, than ever before. Not that either our houses or instructors are so much to be proud of, and not but that the field for improvement is vast and its cultivation only fairly begun—but when I mentally compare the schools of ten years ago with those of the present time, I certainly think there is much cause for thankfulness and hope. At the same time we have also had more grumbling and carping at our public schools during the school year just past, than ever before, not only by those who are determined to see no good in general education, but also by those who heretofore professed to be friendly to the system. The cause is perhaps the present general cry of "hard times," the proverbial disposition of farming populations to complain, and the change of the law in relation to Teachers Institutes. The feature of the law allowing teachers pay for their attendance at Institutes, has in this county raised much opposition

to Free Schools, and many threaten to vote them down as soon as it will be in their power. No arguments can convince such opposition, but it ought to convince our law-makers that as long as it is in the power of every district annually to vote down the schools, the education of the youth of our State is on the most precarious footing, and that it is unreasonable to expect much from an institution thus situated. We may have good school houses, but the most important factor in our educational system, the teacher, will and must be inferior while our schools employ him but four months per year, and are themselves liable to be wiped out of existence by every whim of the community. Let us have the manhood either to put our educational system on a safe and permanent foundation, or to abolish it altogether.

Organization.—For school purposes, Grant county is divided into three districts, and two independent districts, and the former subdivided into thirty-nine sub-districts. In them two graded and forty-one common schools were last year taught in forty-two school houses, of which eighteen were log-houses. \$322.00, is the average value and \$13,531.00 the aggregate value of our school houses.

Enumeration.—We have one thousand seven hundred and seventy youths of school age, of which one hundred and twenty-eight are colored, and of these sixty-six per cent. attended school, but the average attendance, is only forty-one and a half per cent of the enumeration.

Teachers.—We employed forty-four teachers, of which eight females and three males are colored. They taught in all one hundred and seventy months, or three and six-sevenths months in the districts, and six months in the Independent Districts, at an average monthly salary of \$31.25; or \$33.14 for white males and \$29.22 for white females, and \$22.75 for colored teachers. Of these six received No. 1; thirteen No. 2; seventeen No. 3; five No. 4; and two No. 5 certificates.

Cost of Schools.—Nearly twenty cents is the average levy for teachers and a little over thirteen cents for the Building Fund. The school houses, one a two story brick, are now being erected. In the latter is higher this year, because in the Independent Districts two districts alone, the building levy averages but five cents. The total cost of our forty-three schools is \$5,386.89 or an average of \$122.36 per teacher. If of this is deducted the average price of boarding, the expenses of attending examinations and Institutes, it will be seen that the Grant county teacher receives not quite one dollar per day for his work.

The cost of education per pupil is smallest in Milroy District (\$5.77) next lowest is Grant (\$6.36), then Union (\$9.00), then Harmon's Independent School District (\$11.49), and highest in the Petersburg Independent School District (\$12.45). The two latter having six months schools. Average for the whole county \$7.30.

In pursuance of section thirty of the school law, a County Institute was held on the 17th of December, at Maysville, which was well attended, and for a first effort remarkably successful. A thorough organization was had, all the branches required to be taught by the school law well reviewed, their teaching explained and illustrated,

and the evening sessions devoted to essays, orations and declamations.

A one-week's *Peabody Institute* was held from the 5th till the 10th of August, at Petersburg, which I was unable to attend, but which I understand was fairly successful, though not so well attended by the teachers of the northern and western sections of this county.

Following that, a one months Normal School was conducted at Maysville, by the members of the Board of Examiners, Messrs. Davis and Cassaday, and met with good success and had a fair attendance.

These Institutes answer well the purpose of educating the great majority of our teachers, who are unable to attend other than our primary schools. They elevate their standing, increase their efficiency and make and keep alive that professional spirit so necessary to success in any calling.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

Miss Jane C Allen.....	2	S B McNemar.....	2
Miss Mary A Allen.....	2	Rev G A Maston (colored).....	3
J W Bergdoll.....	4	A S Michael.....	2
Theodore Clifford (colored).....	4	Miss Jessie Miles.....	3
Alexander Cober.....	2	A Neumann.....	3
John A W Dyer.....	2	Charles Nme.....	3
S S Feaster.....	1	Cornelius Parsons.....	1
James Foley.....	1	John Roudibusch.....	2
Miss K Gamble.....	2	George W Shirk.....	3
Miss Libbie Harris.....	1	J T Shillingburg.....	3
Isaac Hedrick.....	3	Joseph C Shobe.....	4
D I Hendrickson.....	2	Jacob Siever.....	3
J W Hilleary.....	3	Charles W Sites.....	3
Jonathan Hiser.....	3	James S Snodgrass.....	3
W P Hollen.....	3	Philip B Louder.....	5
James L Holt.....	1	Miss Jennie Startzman.....	3
Jacob C Judy.....	2	Wm B Strother.....	3
W H Kent (colored).....	5	W F Tucker.....	2
Miss A W Kuykendall.....	2	George W Underwood.....	4
Miss Marion Lakin.....	2	James M Wease.....	4
Thomas J Lemon.....	1	Dennis Weimer.....	3
Wm M Lyon.....	3		

GREENBRIER COUNTY.—THOMAS H. DENNIS, *Sup't.*

I have the honor of submitting my annual report of the condition and working of the free schools of Greenbrier county, for the year ending August 31, 1878. I cannot claim that my report is correct in all respects, but it is as nearly so as I can make it from the data on which it is based. I think the State Superintendent would do well to enlarge and make more minute and particular the directions to be observed by the district secretaries in making their reports, for often the secretaries are inexperienced and do not understand the forms given them. The new Boards of Education, that came into office at the beginning of the year, saw fit to turn out all the old secretaries and put in others, who for the most part, were altogether unfamiliar with the duties of the office. The result is that I have but few reports from the secretaries on which I can rely, and but one or two that I regard as correct in all respects. The new secretaries are however, faithful and attentive to their duties, and with experience, will make very efficient officers. The present sheriff settled his accounts with the various Boards of Education, within the time prescribed by law, and so far as his accounts are concerned there has been no

trouble. The difficulty was, that the secretaries did not seem to know the condition of the old sheriff's accounts with their respective boards.

I visited during the year the schools of every district in the county, but two. Our schools have been well attended, making a daily average of one thousand six hundred and forty-three, against one thousand four hundred and eleven the year before, and that too though there were no schools in the Meadow Bluff District, which in respect to its number of youth, is the second district in the county. Our teachers though working on reduced wages, have generally been faithful and efficient. But few of our school have been closed by reason of a failure on the part of the teacher to make the necessary thirty-five per cent required by the law. In the Independent District of Lewisburg the schools were in operation nine months; in the Lewisburg District, six, and generally through the county, four months. In the Lewisburg Independent District a large and commodious two-story brick house was completed at a cost of \$4,000.00, and five other new school houses were built in the county.

There were no schools in the Meadow Bluff District during the year, the people having voted down the levy. There is much opposition to the free school system in Meadow Bluff and Anthony's Creek Districts. This is owing to the fact that the schools cannot be kept up in these two districts, even for the usual four months, without such a tax as the people are unwilling to bear. In these districts the amount of taxable property is comparatively small.

The Teachers' Institute has been well attended, and I feel assured has had a good effect in stimulating the teachers, and raising the standard of scholarship among them. The law requiring teachers to attend the Institute is hartily approved of by a great majority of the teachers of this county, and I consider this one of the best amendments yet made to our school law.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

E G Brownlee	1	A J Livesay	2
James H Derring	1	Edgar Rucker	2
M L Hurley	1	W H Bell (colored)	2
Harvey Lewis	1	John R Bradley (colored)	2
L W Bowers	1	Annie E Herron (colored)	2
George J Thompson	1	George J Bennell	3
C W Walton	1	C N Coffman	3
J W Hinkle	1	C H Hanna	3
George W McClung	1	A K Dyward	3
Mary E Brownlee	1	Eliza A Gr.igh	3
E O Huff	1	Mary E Butcher	3
W A Frantz	1	S G Armentrout	2
J C McClure	1	Minnie R Morris	2
W T Mann	1	James B Dearing	2
J M Correll	1	J L Loudermilk	2
B T Hodge	1	Nannie Ramsburger	2
P B Harrah	1	Mattie W Cooper	2
M G Myles	1	H E Beckner	2
J W Claypool	1	C E Ellis	2
J W McDowell	1	W P Ott	2
A M Matics	1	J S Walker	2
William Vanstavern	1	James T Rucker	2
Fannie R Hanna	1	H J James	2
L J Williams	1	S I Alderson	2
George H Throop	1	M W Walton	2
E H Moore	1	W F Butcher	2
G K Nelson	1	Annie E Baker	2
S B Miller	2	H C Nicholas	2
A W Smith	2	George W Law	8

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES—*Continued.*

D M Fleshman.....	3	J N Baylor.....	4
Laura Ransburger.....	3	G W Deskins (colored).....	4
Bettie Reynolds.....	3	A S Lewis (colored).....	4
C K Thompson.....	3	Lizzie J Lewis (colored).....	4
P B Patton.....	3	Charles A Watts.....	State certificate
Thomas G Mann.....	3	George W Knapp.....	State certificate
William Deitz.....	3	A C Hurford.....	State certificate
James F Byrd.....	3	J P Thomasson.....	State certificate
David W Ayres.....	3	A McD Browning.....	State certificate
Charles B Harrold.....	3	Jas F Clark ..	State certificate
E G Alderman..	3	Fannie McGlamery ..	State certificate
R E Keys (colored) ..	3	Wm D Ayres.....	State certificate
D A Robinson (colored).....	3	B F Humphreys.....	State certificate
A J H Crawford..	3	S L Smith ..	State certificate
B T Perkins (colored).....	3	Lizzie Arbuckle.....	Normal diploma
D L Reid.....	4	Howard Rolls.....	Ins. certificate
J H Walton..	4		

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY.—H. B. GILKESON, *Sup't.*

I think I can say for our schools that they are improving. I have had associated with me on the Board of Examiners two gentlemen fully qualified for their work and faithful in the discharge of their duties.

Upon entering upon our duties we felt that the standard of our schools should be raised, and arranged our examinations with that end in view; and while we may have fewer of the higher grades of certificates than heretofore, we have a corps of teachers quite as competent, and such as will compare favorably I have no doubt, with those of the others counties. They with a few exceptions, are improving themselves, and there is a growing disposition among them to prepare themselves for teachers. They find that they can afford to pay more attention to those things that fit them for their work.

I visited during the session nearly every school in the county, spending generally two or three hours at each one. I found them with a few exceptions, in good condition and working smoothly.

In my visits I enquire into the teachers, method of teaching the branches taught, &c., and give teacher and pupils such advice as I deemed necessary. I usually gave the pupils an examination and look after the welfare of the school generally. I find that the district officers as a general rule take too little interest in the schools, we could expect better results if officers and patrons would visit their schools more frequently, and thus encourage the teachers and pupils.

As the Teachers Institute is a new institution, we perhaps failed to derive the benefits from it that it is well calculated to afford and which we hope to derive in the future. I believe, however, that our teachers, some of them at least, were greatly benefited by the Institute of last winter. The bringing of teachers together upon such occasions where they have an opportunity of comparing views on the subjects they teach, and of exchanging ideas, must necessarily be an advantage to those who desire to learn and to profit by the experience of others.

Our plan has been a full and free discussion of each branch taught in our primary schools, according to a regular programme with essays on subjects connected with these branches.

I regret to say that a great many of our school houses are not well suited for the purposes for which they are used. They are

not well ventilated, a matter of the very first importance. Very little attention has been paid to the comfort of the pupils in the construction and arrangement of the desks and seats. A number of the rooms are too small.

Much more could be said which I will reserve for another time.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

James E Elrick.....	3	James C Shanholtz.....	3
Herman A Meyer	2	I W McDowell	4
Miss Elizabeth Todd.....	3	John L Ridenour.....	4
Frank P Loy.....	3	James P Neales	5
Daniel M Shawen.....	3	R S Pettit.....	3
Charles M Pultz.....	3	George W Lee	4
A H Pownall	5	Alexander Cowgill	2
Miss Martha Grace.....	3	Henry Foltz	4
Miss Mary Dailey.....	2	John McIntyre.....	3
William C Parsons.....	4	Noah W Haines	4
Thomas J Kelley	4	B W Shanholtzer	2
Warner T High	3	John W Hockman	2
J Walker Pultz	2	E A McIntyre	2
Samuel I Kreamer.....	3	George A Holt	2
A B Poling.....	2	Charles N Hiett.....	1
J W Shull	3	Robert Riley	4
Charles A Read	1	W Eichelberger.....	1
Thomas G Pownall.....	4	James R Riley	4
I F Powelson.....	3	James W McAboy.....	5
Miss I Lee Hagan.....	2	I W Leatherman	2
James T Doyle	3	J G Ruckman.....	5
A C Kreamer	4	Miss Saline Mitchell	3
John W Cooper	1	John A McBride	5
Benjamin J Powell	3	Thomas L Dicken	3
J A H Swisher	4	John A Risinger	5
Henry W Roles (colored).....	4	B F Carter.....	4
William J Doman	3	L D Purgitt.....	5
Julius L Housholder	3	Miss Lavinia Anderson.....	2
Miss Ida Harford.....	2	J W Saum	4
J H Gore	1	B F Maphis	4
D W Pugh	4	Avolon Rinker.....	4
L H Henderson.....	3	H T Wirgman.....	2
Miss Lizzie Keckley.....	2	John Taylor Graduate Normal School.....	1
Miss Bertie Kelsoe	2	Miss Jennie Vandiver, Graduate Normal School	1
J F Tutwiler	2	Charles Poland	1
Thomas D Pugh	3	Miss Addie Swisher	1
L C Carter	3		

HANCOCK COUNTY—V. B. BERNARD, *Sup't.*

In submitting to you my first annual report for the Public Schools of Hancock County, I feel that I have given as correct a statement, as it was possible for me to make, from the reports furnished me. I visited all of the schools last winter, and with a single exception, found them in a prosperous condition. The teachers all seemed fully capable of performing their duties successfully.

All of our schools were in operation six months, except in Clay District, where they were in operation seven months.

Within the school year just closed, Grant and Poe Districts, have each erected a good school house. The building erected at Fairview, in Poe District, is a fine one, containing four rooms, and cost about \$4,000. With one or two exceptions the school houses throughout the county are in good condition. As to Institutes, I can make as good a report as for any other part of the school work. We held the session in Fairview, the county-seat, had a full attendance of teachers and a lively interest was manifested by all. I fully endorse the work of the Teacher's Institute. And for the good of the schools and teachers, I earnestly hope it may ever remain a part of the Free School System.

FREE SCHOOLS.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

W Logan.....	2	Flora B Harper.....	3
Marion Moore.....	2	Jennie K Kerr.....	1
W J Huff.....	1	Belle Morrow.....	2
W C Yolton.....	1	Ella Burns.....	2
P Perrine.....	2	W B Stewart.....	4
Jas M Lee.....	1	L B Miller.....	3
J W Christler.....	2	Radie Foreman.....	3
Jasper Whiner.....	2	E D Marshall.....	1
W B Swearingen.....	1	A M Jackson.....	2
Nannie R Cameron.....	1	Wilson McDonald.....	2
W J Lopa.....	2	C B McCabe.....	1
Radie L Beebout.....	3	J C Lindsay.....	3
Chas Gullett.....	3	J S Gallaher.....	3
Ella A Cresswell.....	1	George A Snowden.....	2
W O Gilliland.....	4	S Shipley.....	1
Zeora V Campbell.....	2	Lizzie A Holland.....	2
Josie A Wylie.....	2	J P Watt.....	3
D W Wylie.....	3	Emma McDonald.....	2
Lizzie Edie.....	1	L S Bambrick.....	2
Mollie Thompson.....	2	J H Sharp.....	3
Senie P Wylie.....	2	H F Earsman.....	2
Julia Shunble.....	3		

HARDY COUNTY—L. T. HOOVER, *Sup't.*

I am gratified to note in my report some increase in attendance, which is yet far from being what it ought to be. The indifference of some of our people to education, is deplorable.

The schools, generally, were very satisfactory, making some allowance for chronic grumbling.

The present system of "Teachers Institute" is exceedingly unpopular in this county, and it is to be hoped that some change will be made in the law this winter; it will be practically inoperative this year.

Who furnishes the "well-bound book" required to be kept by section 56, school law? I found none in this office. I think there should be a contingent fund provided for the office of County Superintendent to cover stationery, postage, etc.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

M J Lockard.....	3	Laura Gamble.....	3
George A Maston.....	3	Jas M May.....	4
Wm Fields.....	5	Siram May.....	3
L D Clifford.....	3	W J Foltz.....	3
John E Wilson.....	3	John R Hawse.....	3
J W Pope.....	3	Mrs C Chambers.....	3
F G Jacob.....	3	Sallie C Chambers.....	3
N C Heishman.....	3	M Tharpe.....	4
H R Orndorff.....	3	J A Newhouse.....	3
L C Everly.....	3	Jennie Frederick.....	3
J H Orndorff.....	3	Etta R Wilson.....	3
M E Miller.....	3	W M Nihiser.....	3
D B Haines.....	3	M Cowger.....	3
A Walker.....	3	J R Baker.....	3
A B Jenkins.....	3	V S Wise.....	3
Joseph May.....	3	J L Snaw.....	4
Wm May.....	3	A F Ludwig.....	3
G W Cullers.....	3	J W Haines.....	3
W V P May.....	3	Alice L Rinker.....	3
B W Chrisman.....	1	J W Dasher.....	3
Annie Fetzer.....	2	P H Snaw.....	3
Bettie Gamble.....	2	J W Koontz.....	1
Comfort Lobb.....	3	A L Marshall.....	3
Bettie Tilden.....	1	A C Gearhart.....	1
Jacob Brittingham.....	1	Jas M Coburn.....	4
P B Souder.....	3	Jno S Gamble.....	3

HARRISON COUNTY.—J. R. ADAMS, *Sup't.*

I have the honor to submit to you the annual report of the condition of Free Schools in Harrison county, for the school year ending August 31, 1878.

This report is not what I wish it to be, but it is the best I could do under the circumstances. I am of opinion that a change with regard to your present system of reports is needed. I will make this suggestion, that secretaries be released from making the annual report now required by law; also from publishing an abstract of the meetings of the Board of Education, as required in section eight, which is seldom done, and where done as seldom read; and instead thereof, be required to furnish to county superintendents an abstract of said meetings, within a specified time after each meeting, together with teachers term register, and such other reports as may be made to the board. That the county superintendents be required to keep a record of these reports, and also be made a necessary party to all settlements made between the sheriff or collector and the several school boards. That he be required to keep an account between the sheriff and the several Boards of Education, and to make from these records and settlements his annual report to the State Superintendent.

I will also suggest that the trustees be released from making the report provided for in section twenty. The Board of Education can collect the necessary information without any additional trouble. The president of the board can in his annual visits to the school houses ascertain the increased or decreased value of all school property.

So far as my experience goes, the trustees' report, for any practical purpose, is not worth the paper upon which it is printed. I am of opinion that members of Boards of Education ought to be allowed a fair compensation for their services; and that the secretary ought to be allowed each year a salary not to exceed \$25.00.

The law with regard to Institutes, operates well in this county. Our Institutes have been a success. Our teachers take an interest in them. Our people appreciate them. There can be no doubt that wherever they are properly conducted, they will add to the interest and prosperity of schools. It is to be hoped that the law in this respect will not be repealed.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

Nellie Barnes	2	A Lange ..	4
Marcellus Blair.....	2	J C Lawson..	1
Amos Bright.	1	E W Lawson.....	2
John H Burns..	1	L C Lawson.....	2
I C Bishop	2	P M Long.....	2
Lummie Bassell.....	1	Della Martin	2
Mattie Bassell	1	J P McCormack	1
J M M Benedum.....	1	Robert B Martin	3
John P Boggess ..	2	Emma McCormack.....	4
J H Benedum	2	Theodore W Martin	3
Wm C Bailey	4	E E Mercer.....	2
Lewis S Bailey. ..	3	W A Northcott.....	1
Sarah Bowen.....	1	Ada Northcott.....	2
Lucetta J Brake. .	3	G C Norman.....	3
Lewis B Conely.....	2	R M Orr.....	1

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES—*Continued.*

Melville Conley.....	2	F G Orr.....	2
J E Curry.....	2	Thomas Patton.....	1
A T Cerder.....	2	M L Patterson.....	1
S A Cavalier.....	2	B B Pew.....	2
F M Cunningham.....	4	J L Parish.....	1
J L Craig.....	1	Loretta Pepper.....	2
Olla Cost.....	2	J S Piggott.....	2
Mildred A Dunn.....	2	F M Piggott.....	2
F M Davis.....	1	Geo L Piggott.....	1
E S Davisson.....	1	Charles Queen.....	3
C A Denham.....	1	W C Rymer.....	1
J P Davisson.....	1	Burton D Rose.....	1
Elmore M Davisson..	2	Hugh Romine.....	2
J W Davisson.....	2	Thaddeus Robinson.....	2
J M Davisson.....	2	T F Romine.....	1
Naomi Everett.....	1	John E. Romine.....	3
E R Erb.....	2	Julia Smith.....	3
Wm N Edgell.....	3	Bertha B Stout.....	1
Lillie Furgerson.....	4	J M Stutler.....	3
Jacob L Freeman.....	1	Molhe Swisher.....	2
A J Floyd.....	1	Ella Short.....	2
J W Flannegan.....	3	John Shore.....	2
John H Grimsley.....	1	T L Sturm.....	3
Geo C Gabbert.....	3	A F Saterfield.....	3
David D Garrett.....	1	H A Swiger.....	2
Helen V Holden.....	2	J M Simon.....	3
Albert Hoff.....	2	W S Smallwood.....	1
L D Hall.....	1	W S Sharp.....	3
Peter Hammond.....	1	C A W Sheeley.....	3
Chas C Hedges.....	2	G W Swiger.....	1
Geo W Hutson.....	2	E C Tetrick.....	1
Jesse Hannah.....	4	Daemerit Umbell.....	1
J B Helmick.....	3	J W Vandevort.....	1
M A Holden.....	1	J L Vincent.....	2
Thomas Hawker.....	2	Thos L Wright.....	1
O T Hansford.....	1	J N Wilkerson.....	1
John S Hustead.....	3	Willie B Williams.....	2
Chas H Holden.....	2	S G Wadsworth.....	2
W B Hutson.....	3	G W Williams.....	1
W B Jones, (colored).....	3	J W Wilson.....	2
John Johnston.....	1	Lewis C Wadsworth.....	3
S K Jacob.....	2	Laura A Whitmore.....	1
Alexander Kuhn.....	2	George Washington (colored).....	4
J S Kile.....	2	W B Wilkinson.....	2
Geo M Kile.....	3		

JACKSON COUNTY—R. H. HUGHES, *Sup't.*

In accordance with the requirements of the school law, I herewith submit the annual report of the schools of Jackson county, for the school year ending August 31st, 1878. And while it is imperfect in some of the details, owing to the difficulty of getting complete reports from the districts, yet we think that in the main, it is correct. In addition to the statements in the report proper, I desire to say that our schools are in good condition. We have good teachers and our citizens endeavor to retain such only, which makes it an object for teachers to qualify themselves thoroughly for their duties. The last year has been one of marked improvement in the condition of our schools, and in the qualifications of the teachers, who are diligently striving to attain a higher standard of excellence as teachers. You ask the opinion of the County Superintendents as to the law establishing and regulating "Teachers' Institutes." We regard it as one of the most commendable features of the school law. All the live, progressive teachers in our county say, give us the Institutes; and it must be said, to the credit of the teachers of the county, that they have manifested a great interest in the Institute. Last year we held two

general Institutes in the county, of four days each, and five district Institutes, each four days. There were but few teachers in the county who did not attend the eight days required by the law, and many of them attended much more. There seems to be some doubt as to the provisions of the law requiring thirty-five per cent attendance, of the enumeration. If properly considered, it would be well enough, but so far as we have been able to observe its operations, it only serves for some discontented family or families to break up a school, even with the most meritorious teachers, and it may be merely because their favorite teacher has not been employed. There still seems to be some defect about the present system of collecting the taxes for school purposes and disbursing the same, as those having claims against the School Fund, either the Building Fund or the Teachers' Fund complain in many cases of long deferred payment. While we regard our Free School system as one of the grandest institutions of our State, still we think it susceptible of improvement; for instance, the constitutional provision which submits the "power to levy" to the people to be voted on biennially, should be so amended as to dispense with such, and our Free Schools thereby made a permanent institution.

Our old school houses are rapidly disappearing and new ones with more modern improvements, and with greater reference to ventilation and to the health, comfort and convenience of the teachers and pupils, are taking their places.

Our fall examinations close with this month, and so far as we can judge, there were never more satisfactory results in the county.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

Thos Dewitt.....	4	W G Duer.....	1
W H O'Brien.....	1	Alethe Fleming.....	2
EH McLaughlin ..	1	Clemmie Rice.....	2
C E Tresize ..	2	Eva Swan ..	3
C C Casto ..	3	J H Carr.....	2
W A Carney.....	4	E H Flinn.....	2
G W Parsons.....	3	Virginia Flesher.....	5
Addison Casto ..	2	C C Nicholson ..	3
D W Cunningham ..	4	E B Parsons ..	5
David A Brown.....	4	E W Straley.....	5
Anna Keenan.....	3	R B Howard ..	2
W A Rankin ..	2	A B Reedy.....	3
Chas F Harpold ..	3	J P Kiser.....	5
Rachel Carnahan.....	2	Sarah B King ..	5
Mary A Carnahan.....	1	J W Blackburn ..	1
Adam Harpold.....	3	W S Duff.....	2
Orville Hutcheson.....	2	P H Slaven.....	3
John M Stone ..	4	B L Duff.....	3
John D Clinton ..	3	J W Depue ..	1
Miller F King ..	2	V B Arnold ..	1
Solomon Stone.....	2	Geo H Duff ..	1
Robert Riley ..	3	S G A Waugh ..	4
W H Maddox.....	4	B F Windle.....	3
J T Corbin ..	3	Mollie Moorehead.....	3
E E Starcher ..	1	Theresa Dinsmore.....	4
A P Sallaz ..	5	Robert S Hardesty.....	2
Perry M Stone ..	4	Wm J King ..	4
J S Davis.....	4	David A Brown ..	4
L S McCoy ..	3	Jas O Martin.....	1
Fannie Hays ..	3	John W King.....	2
Alice Carroll ..	5	S M Rose.....	1
Chas Crawford ..	4	James M Burson.....	4
J O Shinn ..	5	Jas A Cole.....	1
B F Davis ..	3	G G Archer ..	3
C C Nesselroud.....	3	C M Cole.....	1
J W Crites ..	5	E C Smith.....	1
Jas M Sallaz ..	2	W H Adams.....	2

TEACHERS GRADES AND OF THEIR CERTIFICATES—*Continued.*

Maggie Knight.....	1	Carrie Stephens.....	5
Lizzie Rogers.....	1	Samuel King.....	1
Lizzie Maguire.....	1	J M Rader	2
Lou E Stone.....	1	G R Male	5
Mary Staatz.....	4	W P Kerwood.....	1
Mary Poling.....	3	John Oshel	1
Chas G Maddox.....	3	Geo A Rader	2
Greek A Chase.....	2	Ida Flesher.....	5
Jasper Casto.....	5	T I C Parsons.....	1
Otho M Stone.....	1	Henry Holbert.....	1
M V Bowles.....	3	Mary Maguire.....	4
J S McCown.....	1	Lettie Lewis.....	2
Joanna Ramsay.....	5	Leander Miller	1
A T Mattox.....	4	Lewis Young.....	1
David E Cole.....	4	Melissa Fleming.....	1
Lottie Carney.....	4	Clara Kennedy.....	1
Chas Carney.....	5	Alice Slaven.....	3
Wm Carter	3	Ruth Johnson.....	2
J N G Winter.....	1	Melissa Morgan... ..	1
F A Sayre	3	G T Douglass, ...	1
Geo A Davis	4	Andrew M Harper.....	4
G H Bonnett.....	4	J B Curry.....	2
Newton Duffield.....	4	S E Seaman	3
Chas Tucker.....	5	S E Boggess.....	3
Maggie Wright.....	4	Leslie Lyon.....	3
J A Rand.....	2	D W Newland.....	3
W D Keefe	2	Kinsey Huff.....	2
Ella G Tidd.....	2	Wm H Miller.....	4
Carrie Ward.....	3	D S Gandee.....	3
Henry W Deem.....	1	L D Dawkins.....	4
Ida Taylor	1	I P Parsons.....	2
Anna Taylor.....	1	L B Pickens.....	5
W L Gorrell... ..	3	Chas T Coast	1
Istrene McClenathan.....	1	B F Archer.....	2
Blanche McClenathan.....	2	W H L Rine... ..	2
Lou Warth.....	1	C E Wilkes.....	1
J W Barnes.....	2	John S Brannon.....	2
Marion Goodell.....	3	Jas M Carney	2
Arv A Lemley.....	1	Mattie E Guy.....	3
Belle Carnahan.....	2	Davis D Carr.	1

JEFFERSON COUNTY—JOHN HESS, *Sup't.*

The schools of this county have been kept in operation an average of nine months, and with a few exceptions, have worked satisfactorily; and while we cannot claim any extraordinary advancement, yet we are satisfied that our schools have been gradually improving. Our school officers have manifested more interest in the school, and have generally been more efficient in the discharge of their duties.

Although taxation, in one or two of our districts, has necessarily been heavy, for building purposes, yet, financially, all are in a healthy condition, and all, except one, out of debt.

We have erected seven commodious new school houses during the year. Every district of our county is now pretty well provided for, with comfortable houses, except Harper's Ferry; that noted but unfortunate place, had two school houses destroyed during the late war, and owing to the small amount of taxable property left by the war and floods, is not able to rebuild. One of the two houses destroyed, was rebuilt after the war, but was again destroyed by the great flood, at that place, in 1870. A claim for the other building was presented to Congress during its last session, but was not allowed. The claim is undoubtedly a just one, as is proven by the affidavit of Capt. D. J. Young, now an officer in the U. S. army, and who had, as School Commissioner for Harper's Ferry District, under our former Free School system, erected the house, and who, after the war, by order of his superior officer in command at that place, sold the bricks and

The Board of Education of Charlestown District, received a donation of \$200 from the Peabody Fund, for the benefit of the colored school located in the town of Charlestown. This donation was richly merited, as that district has been very liberal in its support of its colored schools. By this aid, the school, which is a large and well conducted one, was continued ten months.

Our Institute, held during the last week in March and the first week of April, was well attended by our teachers, and resulted, we think, in much good.

As the Constitution of our State makes it the duty of the Legislature "to provide by general law, for a thorough and efficient system of Free Schools," it is to be hoped that our next Legislature will find time to revise and improve our present law.

We would also suggest, that if section 21 of the law would be so amended as to make it the duty of the secretaries of boards, when making their annual reports, to return therewith to the County Superintendent, a copy in an abridged form, of the settlement of their boards, with the sheriff, it would be a great assistance to the Superintendents in making out their annual reports.

J A Brooks.....	1
J P Hess.....	1
C F Castleman.....	1
E Shaeffer.....	2
G H C Backus.....	1
W B Chambers.....	2
S W Lightner....	1
J R Johnson	2
B W Cooke.....	1
G M Moore	1
T B Beall	1
J A Shirley.....	1
M A Duke	1
R C Bragonier	1
F T Hoerner.....	1
J A McFaden.....	1
W Cockerell.....	1
J Quigley.....	1
W M Deck.....	1
T N Hill.....	2
G W Long.....	1
Miss H Bates	1
N Barnes	1
Mrs C G Haines	1
Miss N O'Laughlin.....	1
Miss M Strider.....	2
Miss E Sybole.....	1
Miss A Cross.....	1
Miss L F Currie.....	1
Miss A Ridenour.....	1
Miss F V Miller.....	1
T W Latimer.....	1
E H Reinhart....	1
J H Triplett.....	2
W M Cassell.....	1
B Hartzell... ..	1
COLORED.	
L L Page.....	1
J H Carey.....	2
J A Irving.....	2
J A Arter.....	1
W W Grimes	1
W A Arter	1
C C Wainright.....	2
W S Barus	2
Mrs M J Grimes.....	1
Miss R McCord.....	1
G W Hatter.....	2
C C Wainright.....	1
T S Lovett.....	2

KANAWHA COUNTY—MARTIN HILL, *Sup't.*

The really important portion of my annual report, which is respectfully presented, is as accurate as I can possibly make it with the somewhat imperfect data presented by the secretaries of the various Boards of Education. They have been withheld so long from my office that I hope no further apology need be presented for my seeming delay. No one deplores tardiness or neglect more than myself. There are so many changes made by the boards in regard to these officers, that we are oftentimes unable to obtain proper information relative to the school work in some of the districts. In some cases I have been compelled to return the reports of the Secretaries, because of the unsatisfactory statements made. In the future we trust they will be more cautious, and improve in these matters.

While visiting one hundred and seventy-one schools we were particularly struck with the manner in which a large number of young teachers conducted their recitations, making themselves slaves to the text books. In many instances the pupils knew but little of the subject, though they recited very rapidly all the words of the text. In such cases, teachers credited pupils with perfect recitations. Another fault was: at the recitation the *teacher*, instead of the *pupil*, did the work. Teachers who thus conducted the exercises were quite young and inexperienced. Having thus been taught themselves, they knew no other way. In these visits I never lost an opportunity to show them a better way, for which they were gratified; and at our Institutes I have dwelt much upon this method of teaching, or want of teaching, and I am sure a good degree of improvement will soon be the result of such admonitions and explanations.

After our examination it was found that we had more teachers than schools, and the trustees generally selected those who evinced the most thorough preparation for the work and stood best at the examination. This plan works well, as it stimulates the teachers to make extra efforts to fit themselves for the schools, and compels some of our unfaithful ones to betake themselves to some other calling to gain a living.

Our home teachers are giving good satisfaction. People encourage them to greater activity and zeal, in the hope that by their special efforts in their chosen pursuit they may be the means of doing great good for themselves and for others. Boards of Education are also deeply interested in this matter. In some districts they pass resolutions providing for their own teachers, excluding all who apply for schools from places beyond the county lines. To some, this may appear wrong and selfish, while others deem it prudential and wise. The greatest obstacle in the way of carrying out the best plans, it seems to me, is the meager support the teachers receive in some of the districts. People seem to forget that a person who has spent both time and means in qualifying himself, who continues in the cause, spending time and money, that he may have something better than husks to offer to his pupils, cannot afford to labor for the same wages as the person can do who has received no training outside the common schools, and makes no effort for advancement. In this county I know of one who has had many superior advantages of mental and

moral training. He is acknowledged as a man of superior worth and a most capable teacher. He is always in attendance upon Institute work ; and I know of another who has had none of these advantages. He manifests very little interest in the cause of general education ; yet, because the latter happened to hold a certificate of a medium grade, he is just as likely to find employment as the former ; indeed, he sometimes seems to have the preference. Why it is thus, I let some of the trustees answer. After a careful examination, I have become convinced that several of our teachers, though earnest workers in the main, have no well-settled, intelligent plan of operations or methods of procedure. Too many deal with words rather than ideas ; with forms, rather than philosophy ; with definitions and facts, rather than with principles ; with details, rather than essentials, and consequently the schools are heavy losers by such misdirected efforts. To obviate this, I prepared with much care a set of subjects for our County Institute, intended to test the knowledge and mastery of principles, the powers of application and illustration, the clearness of thought and the accuracy and force of oral and written expression. To some, the test proved a severe one ; but it stimulated discussion and investigation, and most, if not all, who attended the Institute acknowledged the propriety and justice of such a course, and bore willing testimony to the personal benefits derived therefrom. Of the one hundred and twenty-eight teachers in attendance for five days, I have not heard of one who was in the least dissatisfied with the conduct of of the same. The ordinary statements, that these Institutes prove a success, has become superfluous. No longer an experiment, they have become a permanent institution, invested with the essential elements of success, even without legislation.

At the close of the session I gave appointments to a large number of young ladies and gentlemen for membership in the State Normal School, at Huntington.

I am happy to report that Boards of Education are earnest and harmonious in this cause, and the people are cordial and earnest in support of our plans and measures for the improvement of the schools. Peace and good will are everywhere in the ascendant.

In this connection, I must not forget to say that there has been most astonishing progress made among the colored schools of the county. At our Institutes and examinations the colored teachers have shown as good standing in scholarship and general adaptation in the school work as has been manifested by any others.

Less complaint of irregularity in attendance has been made the past year than at any antecedent portion of time in our free school history. This is mainly attributable to the increased zeal and enthusiasm manifested by teachers themselves. Normal schools of our State are working wondrous good to the general cause, by sending out, year by year, teachers thoroughly accomplished in every particular in the management of schools. We are now more than ever in favor of their perpetuity, because their utility for good and necessity for the complete success to the system are so well known and acknowledged by educators generally, as to place them in the topmost niche in the frame work of the edifice. One sentiment is theirs : *Nem Con.*

From observations and comparisons I know our State has at present one of the most efficient of Superintendents, and I know, too, that I but express the sentiment of my people here, who realize the blessings of his benign and paternal direction. Our teachers regard him as a gentleman whom they delight to honor, and willingly acquiesce in all his decisions made for the general good. I believe also that the schools of Kanawha will compare favorably with those of adjacent counties. Faith and patience are as necessary in school work as are skill and perseverance. Much of the labor consists in removing the rubbish, laying the foundations and organizing forces. The future will demonstrate—if the past has not already shown—whether the work has been *well* and *faithfully* done by the united efforts of all school officers.

In conclusion, we desire to express our warm appreciation of the numerous courtesies and kind attentions we have uniformly received from the school officers, teachers and friends of Free Schools generally whilst engaged in the discharge of our official duties during all the past years of our management of their public Free Schools.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES

Jennie Stanley	2	Alice Hall	1
Kate R Newiman	2	O T Thomas	3
Sarah Slosser	2	Mary Lynch	3
J R Harrison	4	J G Shirkey	3
C T Johnson	3	F J Guthrie	3
Livy Walker	2	William Fielder	1
H F Asbury	3	James High	1
J V Henderson	1	J A Chase	1
D T Thomas	3	J R Honiker	3
L T Steele	1	T A Vickers	1
W L Van Horn	1	Chas Irwin	1
R B Henderson	3	G V Gibbs	1
J Mairs	2	D R Hill	2
J C Counts	2	Rowland Hill	1
M T Burdett	2	L A Hart	3
S D McCormic	2	I W Clinger	1
S L Webb	1	Mary Laughorne	1
J Dillard	3	Stanley Brading	1
Laura Stephenson	3	J N Snell	1
W J Grow	1	A E Pugh	1
Mary A Grow	3	O C Peyton	1
John H High	2	W E Chilton	1
L J Stump	2	E M Stewart	1
M H Eplin	1	M B Henderson	1
Fannie Allen	3	J A Dunlap	1
Maria Allen	2	Ezra Conner	1
W J Shirkey	3	Geo W Hill	1
G G Reynolds	2	J W Elswick	1
A B Price	3	Mattie Murray	3
Ellen Graham	1	C A Drodgy	2
L Mays	2	Mrs M M Thompson	2
H D Whopple	1	Nannie Dudding	3
Albert Wallace	2	W T Wilson	2
Fannie Sisson	3	John A Jefferson	5
Mary Davis	3	M W Howerly	2
H Woody	3	Emma Lyon	2
C Young	3	William Ross	2
A C Osborn	1	H W Hovey	1
Geo Wallace	2	Katie Wilson	3
J E Hoffman	3	F J Guthrie	2
W F James	2	Chas M Christ	1
S L White	2	Jas Hammick	2
J J Ashley	4	W L Alderson	3
W H Knight	1	W A Painter	3
A G Montague	1	R B Settle	2
G F Cunningham	2	B Jack	2
T B Warburton	5	J N Snell	1
Ella Mays	1	P A Smith	2

LEWIS COUNTY.—G. W. Cook, *Sup't.*

The Weston Graded School has already opened its session. If the officers of this school succeed in obtaining the Peabody Fund, the school will probably continue for eight months, otherwise I think but six. The principalship for the present term has been conferred on Prof. L. C. Crippin. I have announced two county Institutes for the current year, to be held as follows: First from September 30, to October 5. Second from October 14, to October 19.

Examinations for teachers will accompany the Institutes with the object of making the whole interesting.

The condition of the Public Schools in this county remains unchanged and unimpaired, so far as any opposing element is concerned. Indeed I may say that a great amount of opposition, the object of which was to weaken the system, has been made to disappear. Many of those, who in the early stages of the system, were its devoted enemies now vote for "the levy."

So far as the progress of the schools in this county is concerned we have great reasons to congratulate ourselves in the progress, already made with the cheering hope of a sure continued future prosperity.

We are securing better houses, better teachers, better methods of imparting instruction, in short we have better scholars and a great many more of them. The schools of Lewis county to-day, are very different from the same schools of ten years ago.

I regret however, that there still remains a manifest indifference on the part of some of our teachers in regard to Institute work.

They maintain that the salaries paid are not sufficient to justify them in devoting so much of their time to preparing for the work. This is partly true; but perhaps if they would devote more time to their profession and become better teachers, they would *command* better wages.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

D B Lovett	1	J F Freeman.....	1
A N Dodson	1	J C Kemper.....	3
Jas E Jarvis	1	Bascon Hall	3
C H Powers	3	Buchanan White	3
Miss Biddie Greene	3	Willie Gaston.....	3
J A Straley	1	R A Moffit	2
J C Rexroad	1	Oliver Rexroad	3
J G Lawson	2	Willie S Gibson.....	2
J A Bird	3	J N Wolverton.....	2
G M Curtis	3	D U O'Brien	2
A C Linger	2	W S O'Brien	2
Miss Manda Forinash	1	R J Simpson	1
Miss Alice Forinash	1	Miss R A McWhorter.....	1
G V Forinash	1	Ernest Oliver.....	2
J W Bruffey	2	Mary Mulvey.....	3
Miss Z E Bruffey	1	E H Kester	2
L S Wetzell	1	P V Hayden	3
R N Watson	2	G M Hamilton	2
J M West	2	W B Fisher.....	1
E I Hall	1	F G Brown.....	1
Miss Mintie Clark.....	3	G Lawson.....	1
W F Powers	3	Miss Ellen Lynch	3
L D Humphreys	3	G M Chidester	2
J M Lewis	3	J F Hartman	2
Miss Kate Cook	2	Samuel Lorentz.....	2
Miss Mary Collus.....	2	J M Davisson.....	2
J V Hussey.....	2	C M Hardman.....	1

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.—*Continued.*

Alonzo Lorentz.....	1	W B Jewell.....	1
C T Craig.....	1	J C Fisher.....	2
S G Yoke.....	1	M J Bartlett.....	1
Hamilton Cutes.....	1	J N Maxwell.....	4
R W Hess.....	5	Miss Laura A Varner.....	1
Mrs Helen A Yoke.....	2	J S Shepler.....	1
C C Hersman.....	1	J A Vantrump.....	1
B T Mulvanny.....	4	J A Eagan.....	2
H L Simpson.....	2	Miss Tinnie Bartlett.....	2
J P Allman.....	1	Michael Casey.....	3
A B Hinzman.....	3	Jacob Dodson.....	4
J H Grimsley.....	1	M L Smith.....	3
Patrick Fahey.....	2	Chas McCutcheon.....	4
P P Flint.....	1		

LINCOLN COUNTY—F. MARION VICKERS, *Sup't.*

In submitting this, my third annual report of Free Schools of Lincoln county, I am highly pleased in stating, that the improvements of which I spoke in my last report, are still existing. A majority of our teachers attend graded schools, taught in the county, four months in each year, consequently, they are rapidly attaining a high standard of qualifications.

Since my last report, we have held two County Teachers' Institutes, at Hamlin, the county seat, both conducted upon the same plan that Prof. Snowden conducted the State Normal Institute at this place one year ago. Each meeting continued one week, attended by nearly all the teachers of the county. At the close of the last meeting, which was held the first week in September, an examination was held.

I will here say that your instructions to me last fall, authorizing me to hold county, instead of District Institutes, has proven very beneficial to our Institutes, as it brings together all the teachers. The more teachers we can get in attendance, the greater the interest and better the result.

I assisted the secretaries in preparing their reports, and am sorry to say, that I found some of their books, in a most shameful and confused condition. The law which authorizes District Boards of Education should be repealed, and in lieu thereof, we should have a County Board of Education composed of one member from each District, which board should have all the powers vested in the present District Boards. Pay those members a sufficient salary to enable us to get good business men to compose the Board, allow them a secretary, who can do all the business now done by the district secretaries. Enough money will be saved by dispensing with the district secretaries to pay all expenses of the County Board. The importance of this change is to give uniformity of terms and salaries throughout the county, which we can never have under the existing arrangements.

The District Boards have all laid the required levy for school purposes, and most of our schools are in successful operation.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

C W Smith.....	1	C W Payne.....	1
Buffus Stomers.....	2	T J Grass.....	1
John Williams.....	2	B H Oxley.....	1
E J Holt.....	1	Miss E A Stone.....	1
Miss Sallie Holestein.....	4	Edward Hannah.....	1

T M Smith.....	1	John Pearson.....	1
Miss Ellen Smith	1	William Pearson	2
Miss Mattie Sweetland.....	1	Hugh Brooks	1
L R Sweetland	1	Miss Rachel Thornton.....	2
G W Wilkerson.....	1	R V Powell	2
E D Wilkerson.....	1	Jas Griffith.....	3
C H Alford.....	4	Norvel Griffith.....	3
John May.....	1	Thompson Griffith.....	3
Miss Bell Adkins	2	E Johnson	3
Miss Sallie Carper.....	2	Miss Vic Harmon	1
Miss Amanda Chapman.....	1	Miss Emma Edens	1
Miss Alice Chapman.....	2	Miss Julia Sperlock	3
G B Austin.....	1	John Stomers.....	2
E B Kayser.....	2	M Smith	3
John Kayser.....	2	W H Stead.....	2
G J Kayser.....	1	Alexander Collins.....	2
J R Moseley	2	G W Harrison	2
John Pullen.....	1	G W Heck.....	2
H C Stead.....	2	A H Curry	2
Lewis Jaynes.....	1	Lee Tutor	2
William Heck.....	2	John Holstein	1
W Tabor.....	2	L D Sandford.....	1
J C Black.....	3	Miss Katie Wilson	3
Morris Griffith.....	1	R P Chase.....	3
G W Wysong.....	4	John Thompson.....	1
William May.....	2		

LOGAN COUNTY.—S. S. ATLIZER, *Sup't.*

This county is divided into five districts, sub-divided into sixty-five sub-districts.

Chapmansville District had one school in operation for a period of one and a half months on account of funds from last school year. This district voted against power to levy, by a small majority and had no other schools for school year 1877-8.

Magnolia District is composed of nine sub-districts, had nine schools in operation for a period of two and one half months each, at a total cost of \$247.50, which were very well attended by the youth considering the condition of houses which are bad for schools in winter.

Hardee District is composed of eighteen sub-districts, having eighteen fair log houses built, at a cost of \$100.00 had eighteen schools in operation for a period of three months in winter, with a good attendance of the youth which made fair progress in their studies.

Logan District composed of sixteen sub-districts, has sixteen fair log houses built at a cost of from \$100 to \$350.00, each, but only valued at \$100. These houses cost too much money, they should have been built for \$150.00 each, though I think the condition of schools in this district is better than it was a few years since. Owing to negligence of the secretary of the board for this district I cannot get anything near a true financial report. This district has had no financial settlement with the sheriffs until 1877, and cannot show how they stand with the former sheriffs.

Triadelphia from which I have no report, voted out the power to levy for this school year by a small majority, and consequently had no schools; this board has had no final settlement with the sheriffs prior to 1877, and cannot show their exact financial condition.

I fear that the Free School law is growing more unfavorable on account of high taxation and poor results of school. The money raised by levying to the extent of the law, scarcely ever runs the schools more than three months and that generally in the worst of

weather in winter, together with bad houses does not produce very favorable results, however all five districts have voted for power to levy for the coming year and will have schools.

The report has been detained on account of the secretaries of Hardee and Logan Districts.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

Mrs E. A. Dempsy.....	2	Samuel McCulley.....	1
John Covert.....	1	A. W. Hammond	1
Levi Evans.....	1	C. H. Lake.....	1
Charles Ball.....	2	G. W. Pinson.....	1
J. M. Robinette.....	1	W. S. Brown.....	3
Joseph Dempsy.....	5	J. M. Hensley	3
Mark Dempsy.....	2	James Chapman	2
C. R. Christian.....	2	James Deskins.	2
J. C. McComas.....	3	Wesley Stolling	1
J. P. Fry.....	2	J. S. Heileman.....	1
L. D. Dempsy.....	4	J. S. Aldrege.....	1
Joseph Ball	4	Mrs. Mary Peck.....	1
Thomas F. Price.....	1	T. W. Blankinship.....	1
G. V. Sargraves	1	Joseph Simpkins.....	2
J. H. Morris.....	3	H. F. Bailly.....	1
Eliza Stone.....	2	Levi Porter	3
Wm. H. Black.....	1	J. M. Douglass	1
Wm. Harris.....	1	C. I. Stone	1
J. B. Wilkinson.....	2	Lewis Dempsy.....	1
Mary Porter.....	4	Malachi Staton.....	3
J. J. Christian.....	3	W. H. Powell.....	3
E. S. Robinette.....	3	Mary J. Powell.....	3
T. C. Whitel.....	1		

MARION COUNTY—JONATHAN M. SATTERFIELD, *Sup't.*

This report compared with last year's indicates a gain or improvement in many important particulars, while I believe there is no marked falling off in any direction to be taken as unfavorable or detrimental. And while the language of figures speaks for us, an advancement in the cause of education, our progress, I think I am safe in saying, is readable more in the *spirit* that is seen to pervade the different departments of the work. The good effects of the law requiring teachers to attend Institutes are already beginning to appear in our county, and I predict that in the course of time, this provision will work untold good for the cause of our schools. I am glad to say that out of the 112 teachers in our county last winter, only a very small proportion failed to make the full time required of them, while only one or two failed to attend altogether. The large majority found it convenient to put in their time, and in doing so, it is believed they were greatly strengthened for their labors.

Another great auxiliary in the work with us, as it is recognized by almost every one, is our system of gradation and examination for scholars, introduced during the year. Though the extra labor demanded of me to introduce this feature, and carry on its operations during the term, was very considerable, I feel on viewing the results, well satisfied with the project, and know that my labor has not been in vain. As I forwarded you a copy of our catalogue, reporting this work in full, for the year, I will not consume space in detailing the particulars *here*, and will remark no further concerning it, save to express the earnest desire that all our county superintendents may introduce and give this system a trial.

By way of further meeting the requirements of the School Law, I wish to say, briefly, before concluding: 1. Our schools generally are in a flourishing condition, however, some of them are still suffering on account of unworth, and unexperienced teachers and officers. The Institute will have an influence to remove a part of this difficulty, and greater care, first, upon the part of the people in selecting officers, and then by the officers in the employment of teachers, will overcome the remaining portion. 2. Our School Law is a *good* one, and its spirit and purpose faithfully carried out by all who hold trusts under it, would, I am compelled to think, yield us all that could be desired, in the way of free schools. I think sometimes that certain changes might be made for the better, but as the great need of the hour is; not a new School Law, nor yet any particular alterations in the present one, but a faithful and rigid compliance with all our school regulations as they *now stand*, I will not devote space to the suggestion of any amendments.

I trust that the school year upon which we are now entering may be one of great prosperity everywhere.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

M J Stewart.....	1	A G Hunt.....	1
Irvin Nutter.....	1	Mollie Hindman... ..	2
L M Koon.....	1	William Gray	1
S K Jacob.....	1	B F Mundell	1
J C Nay.....	1	H C Freeland	2
A H Hall.....	1	L K McClure	3
L R Conoway.....	2	P N Swan.....	2
J W Fast.....	1	P L Stnrm.	1
W E Hawkins.....	2	G W Martin	1
E S Clayton.....	1	Alexander Kuhn.....	1
P E Sherman.....	2	Thos J Hartley	3
Wm Michael	3	Kate M Kincaid.....	1
D N Musgrave	3	M F Hamilton. . . .	2
C M Arneith.....	2	Jas L Morgan.....	2
A C Amos.....	2	F R Cole	2
O L Hoult.....	2	J R Smith	2
W T W Crow	3	Wm H Martin	1
John H Brock	1	J V Carpenter. . . .	1
J C Glasscock	2	J F Jones.....	1
M S Snoderly	1	Simon C Parish.....	1
Riley Shackelford.....	2	J A Robey	1
Thomas Conaway.....	2	A S Parish	2
Geo W Palmer.....	2	S J Sturm	2
W S Prickett	2	M M Ross	1
Emery Mercer	2	D H Barker	2
James M Satterfield	1	D M Davis	1
E T Clayton.....	1	L E Morgan	1
H M Petrick	2	F H Morgan.....	1
John N Mercer.....	3	Hattie P Burke	1
J W Brain.....	2	Jennie Wormley.....	2
Fannie L Carter	2	Z F Davis	1
R E Fast	2	F M Ashcraft.....	2
H B Morgan	1	H L Sturm.....	3
C H Morris	1	S M Sturm	2
S R Mercer	1	Kate Mason	2
Marshall Ice	2	W J Price	1
Alice Clayton. . . .	3	Jas L Morgan.....	1
W S Sharp	2	Alfred Sanders.....	1
S W Wilson	2	L H Wilcox.....	2
Arthur Sturm.....	2	Luella Maple	1
C B Nay	2	Benton Hull.....	3
Olive M Zunfbro.....	1	H L Boyles	2
C H Meredith	1	S G Ash	2
John L Lake.....	2	A R Wilcox	2
Rufus E Horn.....	2	Ida Lowe.....	1
H W Harr	1	T B Holbert.....	2
Nannie Hayhurst	2	C W Sturm.....	1
Thomas M Fleming	1	H C Hall	1
Delia M Harr.....	2	W R Hibbs.....	1
A F Billingslea.....	1	Hamilton Kuhn	2
A E Coon.....	2	A S Arnett	2

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES—*Continued.*

C W Müller.....	2	J A Barnes.....	2
Jennie Vangilder.....	2	Alice Lowe.....	1
J A Barnes.....	3	H C Evans.....	2
Thos A Nuzum.....	2	A G Ryan.....	2
A F Satterfield.....	3	T B Cross.....	2
Viola Swearingen.....	2	Tilda West.....	2
M M Ross.....	2	L Reese.....	1
Carrie V Turney.....	1	Morgan B Hall.....	2

MARSHALL COUNTY—W. M. WIRT, *Supt*:

Our schools have been more efficient during the past year, than during the preceding one, and much more so, in my judgment, than in any year since their introduction in our county.

I attribute the great success of our schools to two principal causes, first, better teachers, second, the "graduating system." Our schools have nearly all been taught by citizen teachers, who make their homes in our county and whose interests are identified with those of the county and vicinity of their labor. But to the graduating system, more than to any other cause, do we owe the revival of our educational interests. The introduction of this system has met the hearty concurrence of the great majority of the people, and where I have had the co-operation of the teachers in its introduction, it has been a success, but it has like all new things, having for its object the advancement of society, met with some opposition.

In the spring months I held examinations in the different districts, which were very interesting occasions, as the graduates delivered speeches in the evenings. In a few instances their commencement exercises would compare favorably with similar exercises in colleges and seminaries. There were seventy-six graduates during the year, most of whom showed a thorough knowledge of the common school curriculum. There will be more than one hundred graduates in the incoming year. I make no argument in favor of this system, but will respectfully refer you to Prof. Wade's Catalogue of Monongalia County schools, in which he urges, at some length, its adoption throughout the State. I will simply say to Superintendents of other counties, Try it with a determination to make it a success and you will soon be convinced of its adaptability to the work to be done.

While visiting schools, I hold in the evening, educational meetings, which are largely attended by the citizens, and the result is the parents take greater interest in the cause. The object of the meetings is to stimulate all to greater efforts, and I am satisfied these meetings are productive of much good, as I frequently receive letters from the teachers saying "your visit has done much toward awakening an interest in the district, especially your talk to the parents in the evening. It appears to have awakened them to a sense of the responsibility resting upon them." The work of the Superintendent must not be confined to the teachers and pupils, but must reach the masses. Interest the parent and you have secured the interest of the child. Many teachers fail for want of the co-operation of the parents, whose influence is greater than the teachers, and when the two teacher, and

parent, exert opposing influences, the teacher must yield in many instances and his work is lost, but let the two work together harmoniously, and the result must and will be all that can be desired.

Many of our school houses are ornamented with pictures, flowers, wreaths, etc., which displays a commendable taste on the teacher's part. The school room should be made as attractive as possible, as it has a refining influence upon the child. In this respect the Moundsville graded school and the Benwood graded school buildings, with many others in the county, are models of artistic taste. The Teacher's County Association met in Moundsville during the holidays and was largely attended, nearly all of the teachers in the County being present. It proved to be the most interesting session since its organization. Institutes were first introduced in this County by my predecessor, S. R. Hassen, an enthusiastic worker in the cause of education. He introduced many reforms in our schools, but none that will probably result in more good than the Teachers Institute, but unfortunately, he with other good teachers is not now teaching owing to the meagre compensation paid by our Board of Education. I held District Institutes in different parts of the county, to suit the convenience of the teachers, which were well attended and a lively interest manifested. The citizens are beginning to appreciate these meetings and are better satisfied with the amendment of the law requiring them, than at first, but yet there is considerable dissatisfaction among some of the tax-payers.

I would recommend that the school month be made twenty days, and that the teachers be required to give two days each month to Institute work without additional pay. Would also recommend a change in the law in regard to text books. Let the President of the Board of Education, of the different districts, with the Board of Examination, be empowered to change any text book, or adopt any new book, providing that no change shall occur oftener than once in five years. The reason I urge this is to enable us to destroy the monopoly of any one publishing house. We are compelled to pay \$1.00, \$1.25 or even \$2.00 now for a book that should cost us not more than 50 cents, 60 cents or \$1.00. To the poor man or indeed to men in ordinary circumstances in life, this is a far heavier tax, than that levied for the payment of teachers, and it is doing more to-day, to keep thousands out of our schools than any other half dozen causes combined. I would favor the repeal of what is known as the "Local Option" School Law. If it ever was required and was thought necessary, that time or that necessity does not now exist. As the law now is, it is a waste of time and money, and leaves our school system in a doubtful condition, which has a tendency to retard immigration to our State. This question should be forever settled and should be settled at once, for no intelligent man will care to make his home in a State where the question of schools is in doubt. I would recommend a law to readjust Superintendents salaries, their wages should be so regulated that each one should receive a salary in proportion to the amount of labor done.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

HB Mason.....	2	Thomas Lendon.....	1
N V Teagarden.....	2	P M Burleigh.....	2
J H Teagarden.....	2	S S Wilson.....	2
Wm McGenler.....	3	T M Tedley.....	1
W H Lutes.....	2	P Meeker.....	2
J T King.....	1	S Robinson.....	1
Mattie Reeder.....	2	J R Foulks.....	1
W P Coleman.....	2	J M Adams.....	2
N W Yeater.....	2	J H Wilson.....	2
J H Cook.....	1	Mary Ruth.....	2
Mattie Wilson.....	2	Jennie Thomas.....	2
Mattie White.....	1	Sallie Cole.....	2
Jennie Eagleson.....	2	C F McCracken.....	2
Mary Eagleson.....	2	J B Moore.....	2
Virginia Whitesides.....	1	K A Arther.....	1
Jennie St Clair.....	2	F H Williams.....	1
Mary McCabe.....	2	J C McCollough.....	1
W J Bonar.....	1	C C Jones.....	1
S R Keyser.....	2	W B Robinson.....	3
Ella Bell.....	1	Jane Anderson.....	2
C S Martin.....	1	D T Rowls.....	2
E Taylor.....	2	E P Bowman.....	2
L M Hammond.....	2	Geo McIntire.....	1
India Evans.....	1	P S Harris.....	1
Almeda Wade.....	2	J M Rue.....	2
Adie Slown.....	1	C G Trussell.....	1
S M McCombs.....	2	Charles Trussell.....	1
Maggie McGaw.....	1	C J Bood.....	1
Adda Wallace.....	1	Annie Meisenhelder.....	2
Emma Lutes.....	2	J R Jones.....	2
Flora Osborn.....	1	J B McNay.....	3
Carrie Lutes.....	2	M M Rulong.....	2
Jennie Moore.....	1	C B Parriott.....	2
C E Blue.....	2	J B Strawn.....	2
G Garrett.....	2	J B Mathews.....	2
J B McCombs.....	1	W H Dagg.....	3
G C Monroe.....	1	Mary Peck.....	1
R L Ferrell.....	1	Carrie Jones.....	1
Albert Robinson.....	1		

MASON COUNTY—CHAS. E. HOGG, *Supt.*

The office of a county superintendent of Free School is a very useful and important one, and he who discharges fully and truly all the duties and responsibilities which this office imposes, accomplishes great good in the direction of Education, not only in his own county, but in the State at large. It is this officer's duty to exert every endeavor to supply the people of his county with a good class of teachers; teachers whose literary attainments are up to a high standard, and whose moral character should be a fit model or prototype for the children in the society in which he moves. With such a class of teachers, the school law of our thrifty little State would not fall short of accomplishing the object of its enactment, to-wit: that of "contributing to securing good behavior and manners on the part of our youths, and furnishing the State with exemplary citizens."

Our county superintendents should be active and persevering in their efforts in organizing and conducting county and district Institutes, and should endeavor to impress upon every teacher in attendance that he (the teacher) has, while in the Institute, a work to do; a work that cannot be performed by any one else; that Institutes are for the teacher's benefit and that he should not be slow to avail himself of all the advantages which are thus afforded him. The Institute work under the management of an efficient superintendent, can

be made a great and good agency for the advancement of our teacher. The duty of annually visiting the schools of his county, is a duty which the law imposes, that should not be neglected by the superintendent. My own limited experience on this point has taught me that in this way patrons and children can be wonderfully encouraged in the performance of the work of education, and these annual visits contribute largely to securing diligence, neatness, punctuality and order in the teacher.

There are many of our superintendent, as I am informed who do not visit the schools under their supervision more than once in two years, and others do not see their schools at all. This is matter of sincere regret and should not go unnoticed. Here I do not consider it improper to suggest that an amendment to the school law would be unadvisable, providing that every county superintendent should append to his accounts for official services his own affidavit or that of some credible persons to the effect that he had visited, at least once, all the schools within his county, which were in operation and practicable and accessible, during the year for which his account for services is rendered.

There is one duty required of our county superintendents which is no less important than any others which the law imposes, I refer to that of making of his annual report. In this he should be faithfully honest, pains-taking and accurate. He should remember that it is principally from this service that the State Superintendent is enabled to prepare *his* report, which latter embodies the statistical and financial statement of our schools with reference to the State. He should cherish an honest pride to make a correct statement to the State Superintendent of the condition of the schools of his county. Now with reference to the schools of this county, it is my pleasure to state, that their condition is a healthy one; such I think, at least, as to give encouragement to our people. In this county there is a marked and growing interest in the line of free education and our warm friends and enthusiastic schools have large numbers of supporters. As partial evidence of this I mention a county Institute we held in September, 1877, in the town of Clifton, which continued seven days, and there was a very large attendance of teachers and citizens during the day time, and at night we had an attendance, including teachers, of about four hundred persons. During the fall, winter and spring of the school year ending August 31, 1878, district Institutes were organized and conducted in various parts of our county which were well attended, and in which our teachers took an active part. These were under the management of good practical teachers of my own appointment. I am informed that these Institutes were highly appreciated by the citizens in the vicinities where held.

There were employed in this county, during the school year, for which this report is made, ninety male teachers at an average salary of \$31.91, per month and forty-four female teachers at an average salary of \$30.54 per month. The number of months our schools were in operation was different in different districts, running from four to nine months, the average number for the whole county being five and one-sixth ($5\frac{1}{6}$) months. The aggregate amount expended in our county this year on account of "Teacher's Fund" is \$23,303.30,

and on account of "Building Fund" the sum of \$11,607.64, a part of which latter sum was expended in the erection of several new school houses, requiring for that purpose the greater portion of the Building Fund. The enumeration of youths of school age in this county is seven thousand nine hundred and forty-three, whereof five thousand one hundred and sixty-six attend our public schools, the average attendance thereof being the number of three thousand six hundred and forty-three.

The cost per capita to educate our youths based on the aggregate expenditures for all purposes and the number attending school is \$6.75.

There are in this county (including independent) twelve school districts, one hundred and six sub-districts and one hundred and thirty schools including the primary departments in the graded schools.

The various branches of learning which our children studied during the year and number engaged therein will be found fully carried out and plainly stated in the statistical part of this report.

As to the operation of our school law, I here offer my observations with some degree of delicacy, as I find they suggest some alterations and additions to the work which the Legislature of our State, in its wisdom, has seen advisable to do. We have noticed a disposition on the part of some of our trustees to exercise an authority which shall extend, in its effect, beyond the limits of their official term. This perhaps is an authority which they may rightly exercise under the recent decision rendered by the Court of Appeals of New York, in the case of Wart against Ray, and reported in 22, Sickel's (67 N. Y.) Reports. We here suggest an amendment to our school law by which the exercise of this authority can be restrained. Before seeing the decision referred to above, my own opinion was that trustees could exercise no such power, and so advised in more instances than one. But since seeing this decision I am not free to say that such power cannot be exercised without authority of law.

You will observe that the blank form for secretaries of Boards of Education to make out their reports on, prepared under the direction of the State Superintendent, provides for charging all commissions for collecting the school tax to the Building fund. This I think, is improper, as each fund should bear the cost of its own collection.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

R C J Adney.....	1	Wesley Cobb.....	3
Thomas Allen.....	3	J W Cartwright.....	2
E W Brownelle.....	2	J F Calloway.....	3
A L Boggess.....	2	S E Davis.....	3
M Blazer.....	2	Alta J Darst.....	3
A M Boone.....	2	Joseph Daigh.....	1
Darius Beard.....	2	John Daigh.....	2
Squier Bechtel.....	3	T L Dabney.....	1
Grace Behan.....	2	Richard Christian, (colored).....	4
Jennie Behan.....	1	Chas Eads.....	3
Anna L Brown.....	2	J T Fisher.....	2
C J Baker.....	3	J W Fisher.....	2
C E Barnett.....	4	C D Fadley.....	1
C J Bing.....	2	L C Fadley.....	2
John M Burdette.....	1	H N Fisher.....	1
Clara E Baker.....	1	M Fowler.....	3
C M Barnes.....	3	John P Fry.....	3
J E Beller.....	2	William Fisher.....	1

TEACHERS GRADES AND OF THEIR CERTIFICATES—*Continued.*

J C Brown	1	Jennie Hutchinson	2
T J Bryan	1	W W Gwin	2
J D Campbell	2	M M Gray	1
G W Campbell	2	Nannie E Graves	2
Lucinda Cahun	3	Ella Gibbs	2
W A Cadle	2	S C Gilmore	3
W T Clendenin	4	E H Gilmore	2
Nettie Cook	2	T E Greenlee	2
W H Clark	3	Mary M Greenlee	2
Lillie Chambers, (colored)	2	Ida Graham	2
Eli Coleman (colored)	2	E C Harper	3
R E Hereford	3	Jennie Pierce	3
J F M Hill	2	Jennie Paden	3
Lizzie Horner	1	Alice Paden	2
Jennie Horner	2	Doremus Petty	2
Belle Hutchinson	1	Joseph Pounds	3
C B Harrold	2	G W Porton	2
Wm T Hanly	1	C E Roach	2
Lizzie Hegg	2	L T Rogers	2
E Hermans	1	A F Russell	3
W E Hill	1	F M Roush	2
Mary E Howell	3	P L Roush	2
John Hunter	3	Mary Rathburn	3
W A Hayne	3	Henry Rickman, (colored)	2
T R Hull	3	A M Ralstan	2
Carrie Irwin	2	J T Rauey	1
Salie Jones	2	Mary A Westdall	2
J H Johnson	2	Robert Smith	3
W J D Jones	2	J W Starkel	2
William Zirckle	1	J H Shank	2
C C Knapp	2	William Shank	3
Eva Knight	2	Mary Short	2
Ida Knight	2	Milhe Stephenson	2
Lillie B Knight	1	Flora Spence	3
S J Kane	1	J B Shiveh	3
Joseph Moore	2	M F Stewart	3
Francis Lewis	1	Geo H Start	2
V A Lewis	1	L M Sheets	2
Cassie J Lewis	2	S E Saunders	2
David Morgan	2	F E Shrewsbury	1
W H McWharter	3	G Smith	3
H F Melton	3	F M Swane	3
M F McFadden	1	A E Scott	2
Jessie Mitton	3	Lbbie Taylor	2
Ollie McKim	1	Lon Taylor	2
J J McClain	2	J V Z Thomas	3
F McQuie	2	Peter Tills	2
F McDaniel	3	E H S Whitehead	1
L B McDaniel	2	Mary Washington	3
E J Mosman	1	Susan Wright	3
R E Mitchell	1	Maggie J Waterson	2
Jas E Morris	2	J M Wood	1
D W Nease	2	A J Winkler	2
S S Nye	2	D L Worneldorf	3
T S Nye	2	M F Yeager	1
T H Neale	1	G N Yeager	1
F P O'Neil	2	L R Yeager	1
T Pottenbarger	1		

McDOWELL COUNTY—JESSE J. GAMBLE, *Sup't.*

I herewith hand you my first annual report of the condition of the Free Schools of McDowell County for the school year, ending August 31st, 1878. The report of the boards to me is in some extent imperfect. Consequently I am unable to make a complete report. We have in the past been laboring under a great many disadvantages, but the financial condition of this county is better than it has ever been, and the Free School system seems to be growing in favor with the generality of the people. We are in favor of a free education, when a few years ago it was spoken of in no other manner but objectionable. Notwithstanding those discouraging facts the Free School will event-

ually become a success, and meet the favor of every person in this county. I have used every means in my power to promote the cause of education, and, it is a source of gratitude to me to be at the head of the school, where the people so cheerfully co-operate to promote the cause. I must therefore in conclusion, return my most hearty thanks for the encouragement and aid they have given me, and the kindness they have shown me during the past year.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

Hugh Dillion.....	1	W S Gamble.....	1
Samuel Crockett ..	1	H P Totlen	2
W P Walker ..	2	Mario T Christman.....	1
J W Holbook.....	1	A R Williams ..	1
S F Charter.....	1	H S Auvil	1
J F Gamble.....	1	Allen Steel	1
Henry Franklin.....	1	Samuel Steel	2
E F Totlen	1	F H Evans	8

MERCER COUNTY—J. W. HALE, *Sup't.*

(No Written Report).

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

M F Robinson.....	1	M Manco.....	2
C K Walker.....	4	C Shutt.....	2
I H Whittaker.....	2	A B Vine.....	2
I F Holroyd.....	1	P H Brown.....	3
A C Davidson.....	1	R W Lilley.....	2
C H Davidson.....	1	J M Meador.....	2
C D Clendenin	2	W P Ross	2
A W Reed	5	W L Ellison	2
E B Carr.....	1	M J Johnston.....	2
Sallie Bailey.....	2	A J Young ..	1
L I Hoge	1	R E Pendleton.....	1
R C Christie.....	1	R A Boggess	1
E W Reynolds.....	3	F M Thomas	2
Emma Phipps.....	2	C A Morgan.....	1
Sallie Brown.....	2	G B Martin.....	1
V C Massie.....	2	J L Stoffer.....	1
Nannie Holroyd.....	2	W B Motley.....	4
Corde Pino	2	Z T Rogers	2
G W Johnston.....	2	R M Peters.....	2
C W Kirk.....	2	J C Peters	2
F H Farley.....	2	W E Mastors	2
J A Doyle	1	Josephine Mastors.....	2
S F Reynolds.....	1	M L Bailey.....	2
T K Massie	2	L C Shuesburry.....	3
A J Hearn.....	2	W S Hale.....	4
A B Phipps	1	W B Lilly.....	1
J C Meador.....	2	Samuel Harris ..	4
S Pearis.....	2	M F Ellison ..	1
W G Cooper.....	2	J W Vine ..	1
G C Saunders	3	D B Pendleton ..	1
Cheshire Frow.....	3	A W Reynolds ..	1
A J Godfrey.....	2	T C Pullain.....	2
D Strong	2		

MINERAL COUNTY—J. A. SHARPLESS, *Sup't.*

In compliance with the school law, I hereby transmit to your address my annual report. Schools have been taught in every district in the county, during the year. The Graded School at Piedmont has been gradually rising in point of standard for several years; and with the co-operation of patrons, and continued energy upon the part

of the Board of Education, I can see no reason why this school can not be made one at which young ladies and gentlemen may obtain a thorough business education. Surely such should be the ambition and desire of all who are in any way interested.

The "Keyser Independent School District" has opened a school in compliance with the act, creating it, which has done much toward establishing a school that should enlist the favor of the people of that town.

This school is situated at the county seat, and at a point of intersection, with all parts of the county, and it certainly has facilities which if properly used may give the people of that place, a school of good grade.

The schools in the rural districts show an increased attendance, and are improving in many respects. One pleasing feature of the work, is that where it is necessary to build new school houses, the Boards are more careful about the kind of buildings they erect, and especially is this true in Frankfort District. The buildings are not what might be called fine, but they are neat, durable and comfortable.

The schools have not attained that standard that is desirable, but in the main, I have no hesitancy in saying that they are improving.

With a few exceptions, we had a very fair class of teachers, as was exhibited in their schools, and, as was shown by their work in the Institute. We held our Institute in one session of eight days, beginning on the 26th of December 1877. It was conducted very much, after the plan suggested by yourself. We had actual work upon the branches taught in our common schools, and at night, there was public speaking. We adopted regulations, something similar to that of a school, and called the roll regularly twice a day, and then we marked those tardy, who were not present, as you will see by the accompanying roll of Teachers' Institute.

No time was allowed any teacher, who even for good reasons, was absent from the day exercises. There was some opposition to the time of holding the Institute, as well as a great deal of opposition to the law creating the Institute. My limited experience in this work teaches me, that it is by far the best plan ever yet adopted by the Legislature to benefit the teacher. But before leaving the subject of Institute, I desire to acknowledge the services of Prof. F. H. Crago, Messrs, F. P. Heskett, Jno. N. Trusset, Jno. Buchan, R. V. Bosely, D. C. Arnold and W. Scott Lee, all of whom have my thanks, as well as, all who were present, and aided me in the work of the Institute.

The law with reference to colored teachers attending Institutes should be amended, so as to make the duty of the county Superintendent clear upon that subject. Again, Sec. 28 (school law) makes it the duty of the Board of Examiners to give due notice of the time and place of holding examinations, and fails to make any provisions by which the Board can obtain any pay for giving such notices. The only true way to give "due notice," is through the papers published in the county, and such papers do not care about publishing notices of that character for nothing, any more than any other public notice, and I can not see why they should do so without remuneration.

The law certainly should be so amended as to allow the Board some compensation for giving those notices.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

D C Arnold	1	A F McClelen	5
T D Arnold	8	H McLaughlin	2
Geo S Arnold	2	Thos A Nuzum	2
Annie Burnworth	3	L F Rupel	2
Jno Buchanan	1	Elizabeth Russel	1
Edwin Bonney	2	Reason Reed	2
Jno Broome	5	N R Shultice	1
Phillip Boor	3	M J Steyer	1
Laura Clayton	2	C E Snapp	2
Clara Clayton	1	F A Smith	3
Geo W Dolly	2	M M Sheetze	2
W P Doonan	1	M W Tabb	2
O D Davis	1	Sallie Welton	2
Annie Fallon	4	Nannie Vickroy	2
Jas B Farr	2	L A Walsh	1
J M Foley	1	Jennie Wilson	2
Geo W Junkins	2	Geo W Welcome (colored)	5
Carrie Kildow	2	Belle Welton	1
Kate Kildow	2	G W Hetzel	4
James Kelley	3	Markwood Nihiser	3
Scott W Lee	1	H T Stevenson	1
Jas P Lovette (colored) ..	5	H J Wagoner	3
Jennie Murphy	2		

MONONGALIA COUNTY—A. L. WADE, *Sup't.*

In presenting to the public my third annual report of the Free Schools of Monongalia County, I am able to report that the great educational revival, produced by the introduction of the "Graduating System" into the primary free schools of this county in 1876, is spreading rapidly, with a fair prospect that it will become universal.

As this system, which has produced an interest unparalleled in the history of primary school work, had its origin in Monongalia county, it affords me pleasure to be able to report that it has been adopted in several counties of this State, and in various places in Western Pennsylvania, and wherever it has been properly tested, it carries with it the spirit of revival.

In order to give the friends of popular education a clear understanding of this system, I will answer the question which naturally arises,

What is Meant by the Graduating System?

It is simply adopting as a course of study the free school branches, organizing the more advanced pupils into four separate classes according to their grades, fixing a time in which each pupil is expected to complete the course, holding annual examinations and commencement exercises in each district, granting diplomas to those who, upon examination, are found to be worthy of them, forming alumni associations, and publishing annual catalogues, in which the names of graduates and undergraduates appear in the classes to which they respectively belong. It is simply applying to *primary schools* a system which, centuries ago, was adopted in universities and colleges, and more recently in academies and high schools. I am unable to see why the system was first applied to the highest instead of the lowest educational institutions. Beginners need more helps than advanced pupils. Neither can I see why a system which has been so long approved in schools of high grade, was never before applied to primary

schools. It is but reasonable to suppose that a system which would stimulate a young man in *college*, would also stimulate a boy in the *free school*, as human nature is about the same everywhere. But the strongest argument in favor of the introduction of the graduating system into our free schools, is the fact that wherever it has been properly tested it has created an interest among pupils and parents never before witnessed in free school work. A few words in reference to the work in our own county will not be inappropriate.

In the spring of 1876 we held our

First Annual Examination of the Graduating Classes

of the seven districts of Monongalia county, in seven of the largest churches in the county, when *one hundred and ninety-six pupils graduated in the free school branches, and received diplomas!* In order to give some idea of the character of these examinations, and the interest which the people felt in them, I quote from my report of that year:

"It is a matter of astonishment to many persons that, with a single exception, the largest churches in the several districts were insufficient to accommodate, even during the day, the vast numbers who came to witness the examinations. And these were not disinterested spectators; they were our most intelligent people—the *cream* of society, men and women who had sons, or daughters, or grand-children, or friends in the class, in whom they were deeply interested."

In the spring of 1877 we held our

Second Annual Examinations.

In order to show the result, I quote from my report of last year:

"*One hundred and ten pupils completed the course, and obtained diplomas.* These were granted by the teachers present, on a scale from one to ten—five being medium and ten excellent. No pupil graduated whose average was not above seven. It was not expected that the class in the county this year would be as large as it was last year, as we had last year the *cream* produced by several years' work." * *

"The attendance upon these examinations, both day and night, and the interest manifested by the masses in them, were quite equal to last year."

The annual examinations for the year 1878 were by no means less interesting than those of previous years. George W. Atkinson, Esq., Editor of the *Daily and Weekly Standard*, of the city of Wheeling, after spending one week in this county, witnessing the examinations held at the close of last winter's term, in a leading editorial, published in the *Standard* of March 4th, 1878, from which I shall again quote, in speaking of the attendance upon these examinations, says: "Such crowds of people we have never seen assembled in the rural districts, even at barbecues, during political campaigns."

In order that all may understand what is meant by the free school course, I will say that the law prescribes

A Course of Study in the Free Schools.

Section 11 of the school law reads as follows: "In the primary schools there shall be taught Orthography, Reading, Penmanship,

Arithmetic, English Grammar, History, Geography, and such other branches as the Board of Education may direct.

No college or university has a course of study more clearly defined than the law prescribes for our free schools.

The testimony of our best teachers, founded upon observation, is that if a pupil, twelve or fourteen years of age, consent to take up the above course of study, for the purpose of completing it in a given length of time, he will take up and complete all the branches in less time than he would otherwise complete one branch.

If a pupil has but one study, when he tires upon that, he will have nothing upon which to rest. Give him several studies, and when he tire upon one, he will rest upon another.

It is not the length of time a pupil spends upon his subject, but the intensity of thought that benefits him. It is possible that the grasping of some grand subject in a moment of time may give a pupil more mental strength and more knowledge than he would obtain from carelessly and aimlessly looking over his books for a fortnight.

Whether the object of an education be the acquisition of knowledge or the training of brains, nothing will be accomplished unless there be a mental awakening.

I believe that the introduction of the graduating system into primary schools will prove to be to the school-room what the mowing machine is to the farm, or the sewing machine to the family, a time saving invention.

Since its introduction into the free schools of Monongalia county in 1876,

The Graduating System has been Adopted in Several Counties in this State and Various Places in Western Pennsylvania.

In order to prove that this system works well outside of this county, I give below the testimony of county superintendents and educators where it has been adopted:

At a county Institute which I conducted at Moundsville, Marshall county, West Virginia, during the holidays in 1876, the "graduating system" was unanimously adopted.

The system was put in operation by W. M. Wirt, county superintendent, who writes to me under date of February 19th, 1877: "We are having a revival of education in our county. We have been holding educational meetings for some time, and the people are very much interested in education. Please send me a blank diploma, as we want to get some printed."

Prof. F. H. Crago, of Moundsville, writes under date of March 20th, 1877: "As far as I hear, the schools of the county are having *new life* from the inauguration of your system of graduation. Educational meetings are being held throughout the county."

Prof. W. K. Pendleton, State Superintendent, writes me under date of March 6, 1878: "The plan of conferring diplomas on graduates is adopted in Marshall, I presume through your example, and Superintendent Wirt tells me it works finely." I learn that about 100 graduated the present year.

At a county teachers' Institute, which I conducted in Middlebourne,

Tyler county, West Virginia, November 20th, 21st, 22d and 23d, 1877, the graduating system was adopted. Superintendent T. N. Parks put the system into operation at once. On the 29th of March, 1878, he wrote me as follows: "Our examinations and commencement exercises are over, and I feel a great deal of my former anxiety about the success of the graduating system in Tyler is gone. I am well pleased with its success in our county, and hope to make it a still greater power for good. Forty-one pupils graduated in the county."

Jon. M. Satterfield, Superintendent of Marion county, wrote me under date of Dec. 31st, 1877:

"Accept my thanks for the catalogue you sent me; also allow me to congratulate you upon the great success with which your graduating system is meeting. The system has certainly worked wonders in the short time during which it has been in operation. One by one the counties are introducing and trying it. Marion is laying the plan to this end. Quite a number of graduating classes have been formed, some to complete the course this year. So far as I have acted in this direction, the greatest encouragement has attended me, and I am led to believe that the system has something grand in way of results for our county." As one result of Mr. Satterfield's work, I have before me a neatly printed catalogue of the free schools of Marion county for 1877-8, from which I learn that 128 pupils graduated at the end of the last winter's term.

This system was adopted in Greene county, Pennsylvania, (a county bordering on our county,) at a county teachers' Institute held in Waynesburg, Dec. 25th to 29th, 1876.

Prof. A. F. Silvius, county superintendent of the above county, wrote me from Waynesburg, under date February 19th, 1877: "We are having a little opposition to the introduction of the system of classification, but it will not amount to much. I believe it can be made a success."

For some cause no examinations of graduating classes were held until the spring of 1878. I have seen a specimen of a very neat diploma awarded to each graduate, but I am uninformed as to the number of graduates.

Dr. F. H. Patton, of West Newton, Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, wrote me under date of Nov. 20th, 1877: "At the last meeting of our board I presented your plan, read from your report, and with such arguments as I could suggest, had the satisfaction of having the board unanimously adopt the plan, with slight and unimportant modifications."

The following note from the same gentleman, dated West Newton, Pa., May 28th, 1878, explains itself: "The Diploma System has been a grand success. Nine members of the advanced class, after two days' examination by competent committee, received diplomas. I enclose copy of diploma. No event in history of school has awakened such interest, and the good is just begun."

Having referred to the success that has attended this system, where it has been adopted, I propose next to speak of the prospects of its introduction into all the free schools of West Virginia

State Teachers' Association of West Virginia Recommends its Adoption.

At the State Teachers' Association, held at Martinsburg, West Vir-

ginia, August 28th, 29th and 30th, 1877, a resolution was presented by Prof. E. Bonar, of Moundsville Graded School, and amended by Prof. J. McMurran, Principal of Shepherdstown Normal School, which amendment was adopted by a vote of the association, and reads as follows:

Resolved, That the system introduced by Superintendent A. L. Wade, into the free schools of Mongalia county, providing for grading schools, holding annual district examinations, and granting diplomas to pupils who complete the free school branches, be recommended to the county superintendents throughout West Virginia for their adoption."

Hon. W. K. Pendleton, State Superintendent, writes me from Wheeling, West Virginia, June 8th, 1878: "The next meeting of the State Teachers' Association is August 27th. Would like you to prepare a paper setting forth, in practical detail, the methods of grading common schools. The matter is attracting interest in many parts of the State, and many counties are in condition to introduce the system."

Its Adoption has been Recommended by the Press Throughout the State.

My limited space will allow me to refer only to a few of the leading journals.

The following references to the editorial columns of three newspapers published in the city of Wheeling, having each a daily and weekly issue, and wielding a greater influence than any other three papers in the State, show, in a clear light, the opinions of the several editors.

The *Wheeling Intelligencer*, in its issue of December 27th, 1876, contains a leading editorial entitled "A Great Step Forward in Education in West Virginia," in which the graduating system, as introduced into the free schools of Monongalia county, is carefully reviewed, and its adoption throughout the State is earnestly recommended.

The *Wheeling Register* in its issue of Nov. 19th, 1877, contains an editorial from which I extract the following: "The proof of the pudding is in the eating. The value of Mr. Wade's plan has borne the test of experience. It is a laborious plan and need not be attempted by an ignorant, careless, or lazy superintendent. While it is like all valuable pieces of machinery, very simple, it needs brains, tact and enthusiasm to cause it to run. Where all these qualities are possessed, this little piece of school machinery works as quietly, smoothly and effectively as a Corliss engine."

The *Wheeling Standard*, in its issue of March 4th, 1878, contains an article on the graduating system written by the editor G. W. Atkinson, Esq., after he had spent one week in our county, witnessing the annual examinations and commencement exercises of our free schools, from which I make the following extract: "We cannot commend Mr. Wade's 'plan' too highly. It is just the thing to bring our public schools up to the standard of usefulness and respectability which they were intended by the authors of law to be. It is a common sense plan, and wherever it has been introduced it has worked like a charm. * * * After having witnessed the entire workings of the system inaugurated by Mr. Wade, we are now more than ever in fa-

vor of it, and sincerely hope that our State Superintendent will make it a part of his next report to the Legislature, asking its adoption."

The West Virginia *Educational Monthly*, published in the city of Parkersburg, West Virginia, has from time to time, in the most complimentary manner, referred to the work of this system and urged its adoption throughout the State.

So far as I am aware, not a single uncomplimentary notice of this system has appeared in any of our newspapers; although most of the papers of the State have made frequent reference to our work.

This System has been Approved by Leading Educators Who Have Witnessed its Operations.

I name a few prominent educators of West Virginia, who after witnessing the annual examinations, and commencement exercises of our free schools have complimented the system.

Prof. W. R. White, ex-State Superintendent of West Virginia.

Rev. J. R. Thompson, President of West Virginia University.

Prof. H. L. Cox, late Principal of Morgantown Graded School.

Prof. F. S. Lyon, Vice President of West Virginia University.

Prof. F. H. Crago, Principal of Moundsville Graded School.

Prof. D. B. Purinton, of Preparatory Department of West Virginia University.

Before closing these references I desire to say that educators in Eastern Ohio are looking with favor upon this system, as the following extract from a letter written on this subject by G. W. Atkinson, Esq., will show. It is dated Wheeling, West Virginia, Dec. 24th 1877: "The plan is growing in popularity. The Eastern Ohio Institute at Bellaire, a few weeks ago, discussed it in a favorable light."

I have given this array of testimony and these responsible references in order that county superintendents and teachers may be able to judge of the propriety of introducing the graduating system into the several counties of the State.

I propose now to speak of the

Work of the Free Schools of Monongalia County for the Year Ending August 31st, 1878.

This county is divided into eight school districts, viz: Battelle, Cass, Clay, Clinton, Grant, Morgan, Union, and the District of Morgantown. The Board of Education of the District of Morgantown, in the year 1868, purchased of the State, the spacious building and grounds known as "Monongalia Academy,"* for the sum of thirteen thousand five hundred dollars. The seven other districts are subdivided, forming eighty-one sub-districts. We have, in these sub-districts, eighty-one frame school-houses, nearly uniform in size and architectural style and beauty. Two new houses, one in Clay District and the other in Battelle District, will be ready for use by the time our schools open this fall.

I desire to call the attention of Boards of Education to the propriety of introducing improved school furniture, such as the adjustable seat and folding desk in new houses, and where they are needed in houses

already built, and to the necessity of putting inside shutters in each school-house, or otherwise arranging to protect the pupils from the glaring light of the sun's rays.

I wish again to recommend that each school which is not already supplied, should be furnished with outline maps, a globe, and a copy of Webster's Unabridged Dictionary.

The houses in which the children of the masses are to be educated should be healthful and handsome, and remind us more of a palace than a prison. The health and comfort of teachers and pupils require that the school-house be kept clean and well aired.—Trustees of each school-house should see that the person employed to keep it warm and clean does his work well. Most of our school-houses are kept in fair order. The recommendations I have made would cost the tax-payers but little, and that little would prove a paying investment.

Pictures have a wonderful influence over children, effecting both manners and morals. Some teachers claim that a pupil is not likely to become sullen, or to act cruelly or disorderly in a room filled with beautiful pictures:—Let each teacher try the plan.

Teachers Employed.

We employed last fall in our free schools, eighty-eight teachers, sixty-six males and twenty-two females; thirteen were married and seventy-five single; eighty-four were residents of this county and the residue were Pennsylvanians; four of them graduated in the Morgantown Female Seminary and three of them in the Fairmont Normal School; fifteen of them had never before taught, the residue were all teachers of more or less experience. Never before in the history of our free schools did we employ so few teachers from abroad, and never were our schools more interesting.

A few of our trustees still hold to the old opinion, "get a teacher that the children don't know—a teacher who don't know the children." There never was a more mistaken idea. If a man has a team of several young horses and desires to employ a driver to take charge of them, he will not prefer a man that the horses don't know—a man who don't know the horses. Now why will a man refuse to let a stranger take charge of the training of his colts, and then prefer to have a stranger take charge of the training of his children.

The following extract from the proceedings of the State Teachers' Association, held at Parkersburg, August 27th to 29th, 1878, shows, in a clear light, the opinion of the leading educators in West Virginia on this subject:

"The following resolution offered by A. L. Wade was adopted:

"*Resolved*, That it is the sense of this Association that the itinerant system in schools, or the practice of changing the teachers every year in most of the free schools of the State, is unwise. Experience and observation have proved that it is better to retain the services of the teacher of each school so long as he does good work and is acceptable to the patrons of his school."

Teachers' Institutes are Unpopular With the People.

I have found no other machinery connected with our free school system so difficult to render popular as teachers' institutes. Our peo-

ple have not been unreasonable in their opposition, but most of them disapprove the law which makes provision for holding Institutes at the cost of the tax-payer. I learn from reliable sources, that opposition to Institutes, under the present law, is almost universal throughout the State.

As the free school system rests upon the popular will, as not one dollar of tax can be levied or collected for free school purposes in any district unless "a majority of the ballots cast in the district shall have written or printed thereon 'for school levy,'" as the retention of an unpopular provision in the school law may, in some section, endanger the success of the free school system itself. I think the next Legislature should so amend the school law, that at the next school election the sense of the voters be taken for and against Institutes, as the sense is taken for and against levy. Unless the law requiring Institutes be modified in many respects; unless more elements of popularity be introduced into it, the repeal of that provision in the school law would, in my opinion, be generally approved.

I believe it would pay the patrons of the public schools, if they would give their teachers the advantage of Institute drill, two days in each month, but if the people do not see it in that light, I doubt the propriety of forcing them to foot the bills.

As one of the greatest hindrances in the road to success in our attempts to educate the masses is lack of attendance, I propose to speak of some of the

Causes of, and Remedies for Non-Attendance.

One of the most fruitful sources of non-attendance upon our Free schools is the extravagant prices charged for school books. The Legislature of West Virginia, several years ago, provided that a certain series of school books should be used in the free schools of the State, and made it a penal offence to use any other, but made no contract with the publishers as to the prices which the patrons of these schools should pay for the books.

When this series of books was adopted, the currency was greatly inflated; and now, when we are down to a specie basis, the publishers demand and receive former prices for their books, and as there is no competition, the people must either pay the prices or do without school books. Many parents throughout the State, from necessity or choice, are doing without school books and keeping their children at home. Our State Legislature can, and I hope will do something to lessen the burden that thus rests upon the people of the State.

If the publishers of the above series will make no reduction in prices, then, I say, repeal the act requiring a certain series throughout the State, and provide that each county in the State adopt a uniform series for its schools, upon the condition that in adopting any new series, the introduction shall be made by exchanging the new series for the old, without additional cost to those who have the old series.

The Board of Regents of the West Virginia University has arranged to furnish the students who attend the same; text-books at cost. A plan of this kind might perhaps, be made to apply throughout the State.

But every plan to obtain cheap text-books, that I have ever seen proposed will give but temporary relief. Publishers of school books have formed their "rings," and no one State will be able to break them. They are as independent as the manufacturers of sewing machines were before Congress refused to renew their patents.

This system of extortion is not confined to West Virginia. From every State in the Union the cry comes up, give us cheaper school books. It comes from parents who are unable to pay present prices. It comes from children who are kept at home for want of books to enable them to attend school. Of all the secular books published, the text books for the masses in our public schools should be the cheapest, and yet with the exception of works on law and medicine, they are the dearest.

Now as the Federal Government is founded upon the popular will, as our free institutions rest upon the intelligence of the people, as is the duty of the several States to foster a system of free schools, I maintain that it would be wise legislation if Congress should provide that the Federal Government furnish, at cost of printing and binding, school books for the masses attending the primary schools of the several States of the Union. Let Congress provide that the National Bureau of Education shall publish a series of school books, of the highest order, to be furnished to the several States that may adopt them, at the cost of printing and binding.

Vast sums of money, arising from the sale of public lands, have from time to time, been appropriated by the National Congress for the endowment of colleges, in order to encourage higher education, and much good has thereby been accomplished. Why not begin at the other end of the line, and aid the masses in obtaining a knowledge of the elementary branches? The nation's representatives have wisely provided cheap mail facilities. A postal card can be purchased for one cent, and yet the Post Office Department agrees to carry it with the message written thereon, without additional charge, to any post office in the United States to which it may be directed. Newspapers and letters are carried from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and all over the land, as well as to foreign ports, at rates so low, that often in a single year, there is a deficiency in the Post Office Department amounting to millions of dollars, and yet we would not be willing to see our postal system abolished, or the rates of postage increased.

A vast number of public documents are annually published and sent, free of charge, through the mails to almost every part of the country, many of them to be thrown aside and never read or examined; and, although they cost the nation annually a sum that would furnish text books for all the poor children in the public schools in the land, we cheerfully consent to pay for the publication of these statements of the receipts, expenditures and resources of the various departments of the Federal Government.

If our representatives in the next Congress should make an appropriation to erect and equip a suitable building, in which to publish a national Series of school books, to be sold at cost, (which would be about one-fourth the amount we now pay for school books), the rising generations would regard them as philanthopists. Such

an establishment would be to our system of popular education what the American Bible Society is to Christianity in this country, an institution of which we would feel proud.

The great American Bible Society, which sells its publications at cost, and donates to the poor, furnishes a neatly printed and handsomely bound Bible for twenty-five cents, which sum covers the cost of printing and binding.

I appeal to the public press to bring this matter before the people. I appeal to our State Legislature to consider the propriety of recommending, in some form, such a measure. Lastly, I appeal to our representatives in the Congress of the nation to place within the reach of the rich and the poor a series of school books of the highest order.

"He who contributes to the support of free schools does more for the perpetuity of a free government than standing armies or strong fortifications," is a declaration made by a patriot, and it has never been contradicted by an intelligent statesman.

Having dwelt at length upon what I regard one of the leading causes of non-attendance, I propose now to give some methods for increasing attendance.

The compulsory law, adopted by some of the states of this Union, has, I can safely say, proved a failure. Some of the states which have tried its workings, have already repealed it, and in most of the other states it remains a dead letter upon the statute books. It is unpopular, and cannot be enforced.

The common-sense plan is to make the salary of the teacher depend, in some degree, upon a fair average attendance. This plan, which I have advocated for several years past, is growing in favor throughout the State, as will be seen from the proceedings of the State Teachers' Association, held at Parkersburg, August 27th to 29th, 1878:

"The following resolution was offered by A. L. Wade, and adopted:

"*Resolved*, That it is the sense of this Association that the school law should be so amended that the teachers' salary shall, in some degree, depend upon a fair average attendance."

A teacher who can bring into his school an average attendance of seventy-five per cent. of the youth entitled to attend the same, is certainly worth more than one who can bring in an average attendance of only thirty-five per cent.

I find as a rule, to which there may be exceptions, that the attendance upon a school is an index to the character of the work done in that school. Where the per cent. of attendance is low, there is generally a lack of interest inside of the school-room. The school law, which requires an average attendance of thirty-five per cent. of all youth entitled to attend, should, in my judgement, be so amended as to require a higher per cent. Then each teacher, upon beginning his school, would be interested in having a good attendance on the first day of school. He and his friends would work to bring the pupils into school.

The influence of an efficient and popular teacher, exerted through his friends and by personal appeals to the youth of a community, would do more to remedy non-attendance than officers under a compulsory law would do.

In order to create an emulation in the matter of attendance between the several districts of our county, I offered last winter, as a prize, a beautiful banner suitably inscribed to the district having the highest per cent. of attendance.

At a meeting of the Presidents of the Boards of Education of this county, held at the court house on Monday the 24th of June, 1878, the above banner was awarded to Union District, (said district having the highest attendance) to be held by said district for one year, or until some other district shall excel all the other districts in the county, in which case, Union District agrees, in accepting it, to publicly surrender said banner to the district so excelling in attendance.

The name of the district and the date have been placed upon the banner, and will remain there, even though the banner be surrendered to another district, in which case the name of the district which shall receive it from Union will be inscribed upon it, together with the date of obtaining it. There is sufficient space upon the banner to allow the names of all the districts in the county, to be inscribed upon it. Should any district obtain the banner a second time, the date of the second presentation will be inscribed upon it.

The following report of the committee which awarded the banner to Union District, shows the average per cent. of attendance in each district:

"MORGANTOWN, WEST VA., }
"June 24th, 1878, }

"At a meeting of the County Banner Committee of the Free Schools of Monongalia county, to ascertain the highest per cent. of attendance attained by the several districts of said county, we, the undersigned committee, find, from the reports of the District committees, the average to be as follows:

Clinton District, 60 per cent. of attendance.

Morgan	"	53	"	"
Union	"	67	"	"
Grant	"	61	"	"
Cass	"	61	"	"
Battelle	"	61	"	"
Clay	"	55	"	"

"We therefore, award the 'County Banner' to Union District, to be held one year, or till it shall be excelled by some other district.

"JAMES S. WATSON,
S. H. SHRIVER,
JAMES HARE,
A. W. BROWN,
COLEMAN VANDERVORT,
"Committee."

The average per cent. of attendance in this county for the year was sixty per cent. of all entitled to attend, which was ten per cent. more than we ever reached before. I introduced the system of prize banners after I commenced visiting schools; and presented the matter to each school at the time of my visit, and yet great interest was produced in most of the schools. Teachers, pupils and parents inquired of me why I did not inform them before school commenced of the

prizes offered, stating that if I had done so, they would have had every pupil in school on the first day of the term.

I am of the opinion that we will be able to increase the per cent. of attendance the coming year ten or fifteen per cent. over last year. It is unreasonable to suppose we can reach one hundred per cent. Some who are enumerated, are married, some are sick or otherwise disabled.

Visiting Schools.

I commenced visiting schools the last week in November, and visited every school in the county, spending usually a morning or afternoon in each.

I held, during, the year, fifty evening meetings, including our annual meeting and commencement exercises, thirty-six in churches and fourteen in school-houses.

Desiring to encourage our advanced pupils to engage in composing articles for publication, we continued the plan heretofore introduced, of making newspaper correspondents of our advanced pupils.

At each one of our educational meetings, at the request of the editors, a corresponding secretary for each of our county papers—the *Morgantown New Dominion* and the *Post*—was appointed to report the proceedings of the meeting and any other matters of interest that they might wish to report. Not less than one hundred of our young people were in this way, within the past year, led to engage in the high work of writing for the press.

We held during the past winter the second annual meetings of the Alumni of the Free Schools of Monongalia County.

An Alumni association was, in the winter of 1876-7, organized in each district in the county. These associations are each composed of the graduates of the several districts in which they are organized.

The exercises in each of these meetings consisted of original and select orations, essays and select readings. No public meetings held in the interest of our Free Schools, have attracted larger crowds than these Alumni meetings.

The association in each district elects annually by ballot, from its own body, a president, vice president and secretary.

Those who are richly endowed with gifts, that fit them for the high work of speaking from the platform or pulpit, are being early trained to be self possessed when addressing popular assemblies, while others, whose duties and dispositions, will lead them in the private paths of life, are being prepared to read, without embarrassment, for the benefit of others.

The Alumni of this county, numbers now nearly four hundred members. The fears entertained by some people, that when a pupil graduates he will cease to study, have by no means been realized. The members of the graduating class of each year desire to excel the class of the previous year, not only in scholarship, but in general intelligence. The influence of these young people is not confined to matters pertaining to education. The Sunday School and the church are fields in which many of them are working, and in which they are destined to become not only useful, but prominent. Several of them have, during the past year, been invited to deliver orations and

read essays at our anniversaries, pic-nics and Sunday School celebrations.

What I have said of the Free School work in this county, refers only to the country districts, and my report would be incomplete, should I close without making special reference to the Morgantown Graded School, which is intended to accommodate the white population of the Morgantown Independent School District. This district, which has an enumeration of four hundred youths, is kept open eight months in the year. Prof. H. L. Cox, principal of this school for six years past, declined to be an applicant for the position the present year, and Prof. B. S. Morgan, a graduate of West Virginia University, was appointed to take charge of the school. Prof. Cox, on retiring, is followed by the good will of the patrons and pupils of the school, and it is to be hoped that Prof. Morgan, who brings with him ripe scholarship, and some experience in teaching, will, by his work, render himself as deservedly popular as his predecessor.

In concluding this report, I desire to publicly acknowledge my gratitude to the Great Giver of all good for preserving my life and health, and that of my family, so that in visiting the schools of this county five years in succession, I have never been detained on account of personal or family affliction.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

Elizabeth C Sergeant	2	W W Topp	2
I K Frankenberger	2	T V Coleman	2
Anna L Hayes	2	O C Tennant	2
Anna Campbell	2	J A Tennant	1
Franklin P Fox	2	E C Everly	2
Wm L McCoy	3	D Wiedman	2
S H Protzman	3	J F Chipps	2
Bettie V Fife	2	L H Keenan	2
M E Protzman	2	K Griffith	2
Eva E Boyers	1	E L Jones	1
Carrie V Fletcher	1	S W Ramsey	1
Sue E Fletcher	1	D B Waters	1
E A Brock	1	O W Waters	1
Georgie E Fletcher	1	John Laird	1
Sue M Thomas	1	Lee Russart	2
I Strosnider	3	M A Davis	2
Alfred Sanders	1	Elga Davis	2
D M Henderson	2	A J Courtney	2
C Lemasters	1	L H Courtney	2
J E Haught	2	M E Coen	1
M Wilson	2	Ada Prior	1
E L Tennant	2	L Sanders	1
W W Sine	2	James Farrell	1
L A Wise	2	J C Robey	2
J W Anderson	2	Wm H Bailey	2
S J Talkington	2	G W Johnston	1
R W Sine	2	J M Anderson	1
J W Brock	2	I E Hall	2
S J Hall	1	L M Wade	2
A J Lemley	3	A J Arnett	1
J C Cole	2	H J Cole	2
M E Lough	2	H C Jones	2
A J Hare	2	H M Clayton	2
M L Snyder	2	W H Rude	2
W H Jones	1	R S Miller	2
J C Willard	2	J L Johnston	2
S A D Glasscock	2	Eliza Worman	1
G C Cole	1	I A Everley	1
W E Price	2	B C Jenkins	2
John M Lapoe	2	Ehjah McRa	2
Calvin N Morris	2	G W Walls	2
W J Ring	2	J Cunningham	2
Frances Price	2	Laura Shisler	1
J M Davis	2	Frank M Wood	1
H Stansberry	2	A Zearley	2

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES—*Continued.*

Ellen Gorman.....	2	T B Stoggers.....	2
Mary Gorman.....	2	Mattie Brock.....	1
D M West.....	2	J M Shiver.....	1
C B Nicholson.....	2	G W Miller.....	1
L M Boyers.....	2	S R Coyle.....	1
W L Cooper.....	3	E Cordray.....	2
Lindsey Worman.....	1	K M Kincaid.....	1
J M Stewart.....	2	M E Wade.....	2
W D Costolo.....	2	W M Conner.....	2
J D Gans.....	2	H L Morris.....	2
F A Dunn.....	2		

MONROE COUNTY.—J. P. CAMPBELL, *Sup't.*

In submitting this report at this late date, I wish to say that my delay is owing to the imperfect reports made by the secretaries which required time and labor to correct and complete, and even now the financial part of the report is not as perfect as I hoped, and for which I spared neither time nor labor, to make it. These imperfections grow out of failures upon the part of sheriffs and boards, for several years previous to 1877, to make the annual settlements required of them by law. There has been an improvement in these things in the last year or two, and I am glad to say, that under the management of the present efficient sheriff and a deputies, and boards of this county, this evil which has been the source of so much confusion, will soon be removed. The Boards promise to adopt such measures during this year as will enable them to make a complete exhibit of all things pertaining to the finances of the school system of the county in their next annual report. You will find the statistical part of this report correct.

I visited all the schools taught during the year eighty-one in number, most of which I found to be in a prosperous condition. The general attendance was better than that of any previous years, owing in part to the new feature in law, requiring an attendance of thirty-five per cent in order to continue a school, which serves as a mild compulsory law. One school was discontinued on account of failure to make the required per cent. I think also, that the improvement in attendance was owing to a decided improvement in our teachers, as a very large majority of the teachers employed were first class, not only accordingly to the grade of their certificates, but as shown by the fruit of their faithful labors, in devoting themselves to the highest interest of those committed to their care.

I find that the law requiring the office of trustee to be filled by three, instead of one as formerly, does not work well. It very frequently happens that there are three or four teachers applying for one school, the trustees fail to agree, and so refer the selection of a teacher to the patrons, they meet, hold an election which results in the choice of one by a bare majority, hence the opposing party are dissatisfied, and about half the school term expired before they become reconciled to send their children. I use every influence with trustees to get them to employ teachers with reference to the wishes of patrons.

The law authorizing Teachers Institutes, was put in operation early

in the year. The Institute met with very great opposition, on the part of the public, who claim that the time allowed the Institutes should not be taken from the school month. They would favor Institutes, were the teachers required to attend at their own expense. The opposition to the Institute is not confined to the public, as I believe a majority of the teachers of this county are opposed to the law; especially those who are teaching not for any love they have for the business, but who are teaching for the sake of the money, and who do not intend to make teaching a profession. My own position on the subject is, that while the Institute has failed to some extent, to accomplish the object designed, it is in its infancy and must have age and experience in order to secure the objects in view. I began the Institute work by holding two days sessions, but soon found it better to extend the sessions to four and five days.

In conclusion I would say, that I think upon the whole the schools of this county are in a prosperous condition and are gradually coming to the great object to be attained—the education of the masses.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

L A Burdett.....	1	A M McNeer	3
J N Ballard.....	2	W R Smith.....	3
P W Boggess.....	1	J H Jefferson (col).....	5
E M Arnott.....	2	H C Tinsley.....	1
J W Johnson.....	1	A W Richardson.....	1
Shelton Clark.....	2	Miss C B Foster.....	1
H J Donnelly.....	2	Miss Ella G Krebs.....	1
L E Campbell.....	2	Miss Fannie A Krebs.....	1
Miss Sue C Christie.....	1	Miss E R Wykle.....	2
Miss E Nettie Diddle.....	1	Marion Gilchrist.....	1
Miss Nannie Hinkle.....	1	Miss J B Green.....	1
G M Nickell.....	1	W W McClaugherty.....	2
I C Baily (col).....	3	Mrs Kate Watts.....	1
R A Patton.....	1	R C Appling.....	1
W H H Campbell.....	1	H A Nickell.....	1
J L Broyles.....	1	L F Chenavout.....	1
G C Osborne.....	1	Wm Hinton.....	2
C E Lynch.....	2	J W Yawter.....	1
J C Groves.....	1	H T Tucker.....	1
Miss Maggie Hogsett.....	1	A M Matics.....	1
Miss Serina Beamer.....	3	G Houchins.....	1
W A Gray.....	1	Miss Allie Garom.....	2
S H Hollyday.....	3	W M Bittinger.....	1
C A Shanklin.....	4	J T Armstead (col).....	2
D J Munn.....	2	R D Riddle (col).....	2
J H Parker.....	3	J C Bally (col).....	2
Miss H P Dunlap.....	1	Samuel Young.....	4
W M Bittinger.....	2	A P Miller.....	1
R P Baker.....	3	J B Smith.....	1
J A Neal.....	3	James Dunlap.....	1
A P Miller.....	2	J E Keadle.....	1
J B Smith.....	2	Miss C Vannerson.....	1
Thomp Houchins.....	1	J G Dunmore.....	1
C L Larew.....	1	David Eagle.....	3
J A Meadows.....	1	John D Sweeney.....	1
L L Chambers.....	3	T J Weckline.....	1
H M Wills.....	2	J H Cook.....	2
E P Williams.....	1	R R Little.....	1
C M Honaker.....	1	N B Campbell.....	1
J A Larew.....	1	J R Bradley, (colored).....	1
M B Goodall.....	5	M H Walkup.....	1
T E Chambers.....	1	H C Kinsely.....	1
L M Green.....	4		

MORGAN COUNTY.—GEORGE BUCK, *Sup't.*

The past scholastic year has been one of unusual success in school matters in this county.

Our best citizens were found willing to accept the unsalaried offices

of our Free School system, and serve the people efficiently without remuneration. The teachers gave general satisfaction.

The attendance, including the average daily attendance, was larger than in any previous year of our school history. The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company, for the first time, paid local school taxes in our county. The Board of Education of Bath District erected, at Berkeley Springs, one of the finest school buildings in the State, a large two-story brick, containing four commodious school-rooms, heated with hot air furnaces, and furnished with the best patent seats and desks; a building calculated to reflect credit upon the district, the county and the State, and to be of lasting benefit to those who are educated within its walls.

Two school houses are also being built in Cacapon District; one for the colored people at Pawpaw, the other to take the place of an old one.

Several of our school-houses have been repaired; a few others need it. Arrangements have been made for establishing a colored school at Berkeley Springs. A County Teacher's Institute was held at Berkeley Springs extending through a period of eight days, which was attended by twenty-six of our twenty-nine teachers. Two of those who failed to attend the County Institute have not applied for a school this year. A Peabody Institute of five days' continuance was likewise held at Berkeley Springs in the latter part of July, conducted by Professor Joseph McMurran of Shepherd College, which was reasonably well attended, considering the busy season with our farmer teachers; but not as well attended as it should have been. Professor McMurran is a good instructor. His work was highly appreciated by our teachers, and I am sure they were greatly benefited by his labor amongst us.

Our teachers are improving as rapidly as circumstances will admit. Two of them attended the Shepherdstown Normal School a part of last year. In a majority of our schools the people interested are demanding a teacher holding a number one certificate. Heretofore we have had but a four month's term except in one district; in the coming year we shall have a six months' term in half the county, to-wit, in Bath, Cacapon, and Sleepy Creek Districts. Our present efficient Sheriff, Henry Willard, has paid all the teachers promptly, and I believe, has made all the settlements required of him. We were furnished a sufficient number of copies of the school law to supply our school officers generally. A majority of our secretaries sent in neat, and very nearly correct reports, in proper time. One report, however, was not received until the 12th of October. All the branches prescribed by law are taught in nearly all our schools. I would add book-keeping to the course, and substitute the Eclectic for Mitchell's geographies.

A sufficient number of well qualified teachers is the great requisite of the Free School system.

From one-fourth to one-third of our teachers, and generally the best ones, leave the profession every year. How can their places be filled with qualified teachers without too much expense to the people? I answer first, by retaining the County Institute as a means of introducing uniformity and method into our schools, and at a school for

teachers eight days each year. In my opinion eighty days teaching by a teacher who has attended an Institute eight days will be equivalent to eighty-eight days teaching by the same teacher without the benefit of the Institute. If I am correct, then, the Institute will cost nothing, and should be retained. It will be necessary, however, for Boards of Education to enforce the penalty for non-attendance, otherwise teachers living at a distance from where the Institute is held will not attend. Secondly, I would establish, or at least encourage, a school for teachers in each county. Perhaps a private subscription school, in which the art of teaching should form a prominent part of the course, taught by a competent teacher, about three months each year, commencing at the expiration of the public schools, would answer the purpose. Teachers, then, who had taught during the winter, could attend this school in the summer. Other persons expecting to become teachers could likewise attend this school at less expense than by going abroad to school.

But the surest plan, and probably the cheapest to obtain good teachers, would be for the people, through their Boards of Education, to offer sufficient salaries for good teaching, and teachers will then, somewhere, or some how, qualify themselves for the work; and teachers already qualified will have no inducement to leave the profession for a more paying business. We might as well expect to buy the best family flour at \$1.00 a barrel, as to expect to hire good teachers for less money than they can make at some other business in the same time. Another topic deserves passing notice. As the attendance at school, though growing larger every year, is still far less than it should be. I would favor a compulsory school law whenever legislative wisdom shall be competent to the task of framing one that will be effective in its provision without being too oppressive upon any class of our people. I must again recommend that Stahl's Register, which is "a stumbling block" to some of our teachers, and "a rock of offense to others, be discarded, and that in its stead the State furnish financial books for the secretaries. The duty of the secretary in keeping accounts would then be reduced to the mere filling up of certain blanks, which should correspond to the report he is required to make. Uniform and correct reports might then be expected, instead of dissimilar and generally inaccurate ones.

With the use of Stahl's Register, and our daily register, we have two records of the attendance. One would answer. Without such financial books as I have mentioned, we have no satisfactory record of the money expended. Again, if we use Stahl's Register, we want about three thousand seven hundred of them; there being about that many teachers. These, at \$6.00 a piece, the only stated price I have seen (see Acts of 1875, page 197) would cost about \$22,000.00, and last not longer than two years; making a cost of \$11,000.00 a year. *

We would need but three hundred and fifty or sixty secretaries' books, which would probably cost \$1,000.00 in all, and last about five years; making a cost of only \$200.00 a year instead of \$11,000.00 for the register.*

Superintendent Wade's plan of organizing graduating classes in our Common Schools was presented to our teachers last winter and re-

*The Stahl's Registers cost less than \$1.00 a piece and annually for the whole State, about \$1,000.00
STATE SUPERINTENDENT.

jected by nearly all of them. We shall probably be able to introduce the plan in a modified shape in the coming winter.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

David A Brady	1	C E Walling	1
Henry T Wirgman	2	J A Peck	3
S B Munson	3	W H Clary	1
S J Hawvermale	2	B H Smith	1
Noah Potter	3	Miss T V Norrington	2
John Price	1	J D Oglesbee	3
Timothy Moriarty	1	James S Michael	2
Geo W Corbett	4	J N Michael	1
W L Widmeyer	2	R H Stotler	2
A N Kirk	3	Champ S Shade	3
J M Duckwall	1	Geo M Smith	1
Miss E M Newman	3	Wm F Smith	1
L B Kidwell	2	D W Fearnow	2
R L Fearnow	2	John H Filler	1
W A Markell	3	S B Edmiston	1

NICHOLAS COUNTY.—JOSEPH L. SMITH, *Supt.*

The foregoing financial report approximates correctness. Several items, especially "orders unpaid at beginning" and "orders unpaid at end of school year," were omitted by the district secretaries, in their reports to me, and of course could not be incorporated in mine. Some confusion seems to have arisen in the accounts of one or two of the district boards, which we hope to correct during the ensuing year.

I believe our school system is growing in favor with the people of this county, and that from a crude beginning, it has year by year grown in efficiency until those who were once its enemies are forced to admit that now it is doing a good work. I am glad, in this connection, to be able to report that the teachers of the county have taken a lively interest in the Institutes, and, with few exceptions, all attended the full time required by law. At the County Institute last winter a resolution was unanimously adopted approving of the Institutes, commending the wisdom of the Legislature in providing for them, and expressing the opinion that, as a means of training the teachers of the State for the responsible duties of their profession, they must necessarily be productive of great good.

Our school law, though good in the main, and a credit to our young State, is nevertheless susceptible of some improvement. I suggest only one amendment:

The money for the pay of teachers should all come from the State Fund; District Boards should be abolished, and a County Board of Education provided for, with power to levy a Building Fund for the county; and one of the members of this board should be the treasurer of the School Fund instead of the Sheriff.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

W Y Callaghan	1	P H Shawver	4
W F Callaghan	1	W W Backus	3
J J Powell	1	J C Hull	2
R E Robinson	2	H W Herold	1
John F Robinson	2	L W Herold	1
L M Atwood	2	John L McCoy	2
J W Koontz	2	J Murphy	2
B N McCutchen	2	J C Ramsey	3

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES—Continued.

D S Pettigrew	2	H P Hardway	3
George A Groves.....	1	S C Cavendish.....	3
A H Young.....	1	B C McNutt.....	1
George A Harold.....	1	Miss V E Hill	1
A J Horan.....	1	George W Norris.....	2
J W Tyree.....	2	John W Wright	2
A W Bobbett.....	3	Jane E Burwell.....	5
W W King.....	2	F W Champ.....	3
Hansford Pierson.....	3	J A Alderson.....	1
H C Hill.....	2	Joseph T Grose	2
C H Walkup	2	S P Shindle.....	1
A T Groves.....	1	Cyrus McClung.....	2
A A Hamilton.....	1	W M McClung.....	3
I M Cox.....	1	C V Foster.....	3
B H Dorsey.....	2	John Rapp	4
H Scott.....	1	N C Hendrick	1
M V Williams.....	4	George Grose	1
T C Brown.....	1	J H Robinson.....	1
W W Jones.....	2	P D Horan.....	1

OHIO COUNTY.—J. C. MAXWELL, *Sup't.*

I have the honor of forwarding you my annual report of the Free Schools of Ohio County, for the school year ending August 31, 1878.

I am pleased to be able to state that the different district secretaries have promptly complied with the law, in regard to the time of making their reports to me. In some cases with some little complaint of teachers for not making their reports full, and accurate in some respects. This might, however, be remedied by the secretaries withholding the last teachers' order until the reports were made complete in all respects.

The County is divided into three districts and two independent districts. In the three districts there are twenty-nine sub-districts with thirty schools. Two of the sub-districts in Triadelphia District employ two teachers each. In Liberty District there is one colored school. They are not yet provided with a school house. The colored people seem anxious to improve, their children generally being studious, and laboring hard.

This county is well provided with school houses, the only inferior house in the County, having been replaced by a new brick house. This is in the independent district of Washington. It not being quite finished at the close of the school year, is not included in the tabular report.

The people of this County make ample provision for the education of the youth of the County, in furnishing them with good comfortable houses and fixtures, and a fund large enough to carry on the schools from seven to eight months in the year. I believe there is no tax so cheerfully paid by the citizens of this County as the school tax. But while this is the case, I am constrained to believe they do not receive an adequate return for the money expended. This is partly their own fault occasioned by irregularity of attendance. You will see by the tabular report that the attendance in the County numbers 1,592; while the average attendance is but 936, or about 59 per cent. The average attendance is but about 43 per cent. of the enumeration. I think a much larger attendance could be secured, if our legislators would provide a fund, to provide necessary books for those who are unable to provide them for themselves. One great obstacle to the improvement of the schools as they now exist, is the meagre supply of

books Many of those for whom the Free Schools are more especially designed, are I believe, kept away from inability to purchase the necessary books. I have sometimes thought it would be a matter of economy for the Boards of Education to furnish all the books, either permanently at the public expense, or the people at publishers prices, using a part of the Building Fund for the purpose.

I visited all the schools in the County once, many of them twice, and some of them three times. I found the general progress and deportment good. In some few the government not being all that could be desired. For this sometimes the people are to blame as much, if not more than the teacher. The teachers all appeared to be laboring faithfully, earnestly and conscientiously. Some few have yet to learn "how to teach."

"Teachers' Institutes" have been held in the County, at which nearly all the teachers attended, and I think with good results. Many teachers with whom I have conversed, admit that they found them a source of interest and profit. There is however, some disposition to attend them if convenient, but not to use any extra exertion to *make* it convenient to attend. Some teachers prefer losing the time from their last month, rather than be at any expense to attend the Institute. I think the law might be made a little more stringent, with good effect. One difficulty in the way of these Institutes being all that could be desired, is that there is no provision for supplying them with able lecturers, and first class educators, who could make their exercises more varied as well as more profitable. I would favor the setting apart of a sum for each county to pay the expense of such persons. The teachers themselves cannot afford to do this. Or some educator of note might be employed for several counties at a reasonable outlay, and conduct Institutes in those counties in rotation.

I have some doubt whether the present method of establishing teachers salaries is the best one. There are some able and efficient teachers in the county, whose services should demand more than the ordinary teacher, while the latter will probably command the same grade of certificate and consequently the same wages. I think it would be better to leave employment of teachers to the trustees at such wages as the latter may think best to give. I think it would have the effect of arousing a spirit of emulation among teachers. They would be more anxious to establish a reputation. I deprecate the disposition also, of Boards of Education to reduce teachers salaries to the lowest possible point. It is calculated to make them lose all interest in their work. If they are true teachers they feel as if their labor was not appreciated. This county however, has not yet reduced salaries as low as they are in some other counties.

To conclude, I believe Ohio County stands in the front rank, in the quality of her school buildings, in her provision for the support of her Free Schools, in the capability of her teachers, and in the advancement of her children.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

John W Hancher.....	1	*Mary Patterson..	2
CL Howell	2	S J Carroll.....	2
*Jennie Lyda.....	2	R M Pogue.....	1
G A Kyle	1	*W H Curtis	2
Alice B Eckhart.....	2	*Brooks Hedges.....	1
Louisa B Muth.....	1	Jennie D McCleery	2
A W Maxwell.....	2	W H Goslin.....	1
R Ella Baird.....	1	Jennie M Ely	2
*Belle S Warden.....	2	W C Smith	1
*Blanche M Blaney.....	2	W E Hervey	2
Mary V Bell.....	2	*Mary L English.....	1
*C E Trussell.....	3	*Meda White	1
*C M Liggitt.....	1	*W W Foreman.....	1
J C Frazier.....	1	*W F Mitchell	4
J F Foreman.....	1	*H F McCammon	2
Pauline V Woods.....	3	*F E McFarland	1
*Anna M Jeffry.....	2	G W McCord.....	1
*J C Settle.....	3	W M Wirt	1
*S C C Adams	1	Chalmers Henderson.	3
*N A Thornburg.....	2	J A Anderson	2
*M F Rucker.....	1	*Abbie J Wallace	2

*Examined only in primary branches.

PENDLETON COUNTY—WM. F. McQUAIN, *Sup't.*

I hereby submit my annual report for the year ending August 31st, 1878. I am glad to report that the condition of our schools is better than in the preceding years, and, in justice to the teachers, I must say that the improved condition is greatly due to *their* efforts to improve themselves, as is best evidenced in the elevation of their grades, and to their continued perseverance and zeal in the school room to make more efficient and profitable the workings of the system of public instruction, and by these efforts they have awakened a more general interest on the part of the people, and have effected a more general understanding of the great advantages of popular education.

The Institutes were held during the winter, and a large majority of the teachers were in attendance. In conducting them, the suggestions of the State Superintendent were followed, and it was my earnest aim to make this new feature of the law as advantageous to the school as possible, and did all in my power to work out the very best results, and as a means of receiving new methods of teaching and of exciting interest as well as an emulous ambition to excel, my observation leads me to conclude that much can be said in its favor; yet, upon the whole, it seems that the Institute feature is one not generally approved.

In this, my last annual report, I take the opportunity of returning my sincere thanks to the teachers, school officers, and people of Pendleton county, for their co-operation and uniform kindness during my administration as their County Superintendent.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

Isaac Hatrick.....	3	A A Hahn	1
G H Hiner.....	3	G M Schonecker	2
Addison Harman.....	4	G W Shirk	4
J W Byrd.....	2	J G Dahman.....	4
O F Chew.....	3	L M Pope	3
N W Eckard.....	3	R H Huffman.....	2
John J Hiner.....	1	W N Murphy.....	3
Fred Mooman.....	1	J S Cunningham.....	4

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES--Continued.

Michael Mauzy.....	2	D S Cunningham.....	3
Isaac Powell.....	2	N Job Canger.....	2
J D Masters.....	2	Philip Nelson.....	2
E R Caricoff.....	2	A Day.....	3
T H Harrison.....	3	Levi Cunningham.....	4
Z H Simmons.....	3	B C Harman.....	4
Sallie D Jones.....	2	A T Calhoun.....	1
Isaac L Dice.....	3	Jacob Harman.....	3
H E Colaw.....	3	Jas T Hirely.....	2
R K Hiner.....	5	J M McQuain.....	3
T M Jones.....	3	J W Cook.....	2
Geo W Davis.....	3	James Williams.....	3
Geo W Grady.....	2	John S Bond.....	3
J H Kiser.....	5	John T Masters.....	3
S W Mullenax.....	1	D N Landes.....	3
E V Blakemore.....	1	Martha H Ward.....	3
G M Puffenbarger.....	3	George A Eye.....	3
Wm Vint.....	3	J F Simmons.....	2
Wm C Blakemore.....	2	J M McMullan.....	1
J J Dunkle.....	1	Geo M Vint.....	2
A P Devericks.....	3	Isaiah Harman.....	3
E A Samuels.....	1	R D Rimel.....	4
J A Gibson.....	3	Wm Breen.....	3
P A Switzer.....	3	W O Nelson.....	2
J Phares.....	1	Kate Croushorn.....	4
S W Phares.....	3	D C Vance.....	5
L D Bennett.....	3	G W Pitzenbarger.....	4
H Hiner.....	2		

PLEASANTS COUNTY.—G. W. GARRETT, *Sup't.*

Herewith I transmit my annual report for the school year ending August, 1878. I visited all the schools but three, and found them all generally in good working order.

Three trustees are a great evil. There are many schools at this time in our county in great trouble and difficulty, caused by the trustees differing with regard to the choice of teachers.

Institutes, if well attended, and properly conducted, are great aids to our teachers. Our teachers attended well, and were much pleased with the institution.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

O Z Lowe.....	1	Nannie Hall.....	1
C C Davis.....	1	Mary Ellis.....	3
J F Wayman.....	1	L D Ellis.....	3
J C Noland.....	2	Annie C Imley.....	1
B F McVay.....	1	T S Kester.....	1
A Bever.....	1	Laura Wilson.....	2
Mantie Johnson.....	1	Mattie Wilson.....	2
V B Little.....	1	Ella Reynolds.....	2
Viola Shinn.....	3	B F Riggs.....	3
Susan C Lowe.....	2	J L Morland.....	2
Annie M Gorrell.....	1	K B Edgell.....	3
Daniel Beynords.....	2	Rachel W Bymer.....	2
Rd Lowzey.....	1	Nicholas W Wells.....	2
L W T Martin.....	4	J L Hammond.....	3
Wm Richey.....	3	Ellis Edgell.....	2
Green Ruttencutter.....	1	Alex C Gorrell.....	1
Wm H Piles.....	4	T L Barber.....	1
G G Satterfield.....	2	M P Prettyman.....	1
E T Fleming.....	1	Miss Medecott.....	2
Sina A Locke.....	2	Sina Dix.....	1
K C Edgell.....	2	Mary Maxwell.....	3
L A Ellis.....	1	Milton Steele.....	1
W Hamilton.....	3	J W Johnson.....	1
Alice Green.....	3		

POCAHONTAS COUNTY.—S. B. HANNAH, *Sup't.*

I think the schools were taught successfully and efficiently with but few exceptions. I think I am safe in saying that the teachers feel the responsibility of their position, and are endeavoring to render good work for their remuneration.

I visited all the schools once, except one, and that was owing to a misunderstanding as to the time it closed. I visited many twice. I hope and think the Teachers' Institutes are a benefit to them, if they rightly appreciate their motive.

I suggest one change in our school law in regard to the District Boards of Education.

I suggest a County Board, to consist of one member to be elected from each district, with the County Superintendent President *ex-officio*; one clerk instead of the district clerk, and that clerk to be paid \$100.00 for his services; the Board to meet every two months at the county seat. Also that they be paid so much per diem, exclusive of County Superintendent.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

Wm F Arbogast	1	Miss Cora Grimes.....	3
Chas C Arbogast	2	M G Mathews.....	1
Uriah Bird	2	N S Bruffy.....	2
A S Gallispin	2	J W Snedegar	2
Geo A Burner	2	Miss Emma Warwick	1
P V Slaven	2	Miss M W Warwick	2
L W Talbott	1	Miss aria Wilson	2
T W Davidson	3	Miss L J Wanless	3
Miss F Lockridge	1	C L Stulting.....	1
Miss Maggie Evers	1	C I Stulting	2
Miss Lucy Clarke	3	John S Moore.....	1
A M Lockridge	1	Geo Baxter	1
Jno C McLaughlin	1	Rev M D Dunlap.....	1
Jas W Warwick.....	1	J K Wooddell	1
E M Moore	1	Lee A Sullender.....	1
Walter P Campbell	1	Miss Laura Lockridge	1
H P Cosby.....	1	Miss Nellie Stulting	1
J N Sharp	3	Geo S Weiford	2
C S Warnsley	2	Elijah N Grant (colored)	1
B F White	2	Alex Armstrong (colored).....	3

PRESTON COUNTY.—P. R SMITH *Sup't.*

In making to you my annual report of the schools for the school year closed, I regret very much that I was not able to send it at an earlier date, but it was impossible to do so, because some of the secretaries failed to send in their reports till within a few days ago.

In viewing the history of our schools for the past year, we can truthfully say, we are progressing — not so rapidly, perhaps, as we ought, but it is deep, solid and permanent work that we are doing. A few years ago many of our teachers came from other States, and counties of this State; now we have teachers permanently located in the county, and to get the one hundred and thirty-five teachers to teach the one hundred and twenty-five schools, it is not necessary to go out side of the boundaries of the county. Our teachers, too, will compare very favorably with those of neighboring States, and counties of our own State. Of course there is much room for improvement; we are

striving year by year, to meet this want and advance our intelligence to a state of relative proficiency. Last winter I paid one hundred and nineteen visits to the schools of the county, and found them with few exceptions, all doing well. The teachers were earnest, each striving to do his work conscientiously and to increase the present attendance. During the summer, Normal Schools were taught at Kingwood, Masontown and Valley District, by, respectively, S. W. Fike, U. S. Flemming and W. S. Bayles. All of these schools were well attended by young ladies and men, who reside in the county. Each of these gentlemen deserves especial mention for the good done. The ladies and gentlemen trained at these schools proved to be among the most through we examined in the county, and I confidently predict that at the close of this school term they will stand in the ranks with the practical teachers of the county. During the year, five new school houses were erected, two in Keno District, one in Valley District, one in Kingwood District, at an average cost of about \$375.00 each; and in the town of Portland a very elegant, and in architecture, second to none in the county, save durability only, to the artistically finished brick in Kingwood, at a cost of about \$3,000.00, desks and seats inclusive. Last winter I held five "Teachers' Institutes," including one for the county, in Kingwood, and each with a session of four days; with few exceptions, every teacher in the county attended one or other of these gatherings. These Institutes were very interesting and instructive, revolutionizing the old methods of giving instruction. Hon. William G. Brown and Col. A. C. Baker, members of the Kingwood bar, and Rev. Dr. Prettyman and Rev. H. C. Blayney, of the Kingwood pulpits, desire to have their names mentioned in this report, for the interest taken by each at the County Institute. Hon. William G. Brown, delivered to the Institute a lecture of great research, depth of thought and of very singular interest, upon the Constitution of the United States, in which he traced the cause of its outgrowth for centuries before America was discovered, and concluded with the duties of American citizens to perpetuate it. The other gentlemen confined themselves to the subject of education. However, there is a strong feeling of opposition against the system of Institutes by many of our people. I am confident, if changes could be made so as not to impair the efficiency of the system and cause the people to become reconciled to this valuable auxiliary in education, it would be very desirable. The more I think of the subject, the more I am convinced that attendance upon our schools should be made compulsory.

The cost for maintaining our schools in this county for the past current school year, was \$23,379.62; yet the average attendance is but a trifle above fifty per cent of the six thousand four hundred and fifty-eight youths in the county, and one thousand six hundred and ninety-three of them did not attend a single day. It is admitted very generally, I believe, that education is one of the most effective preventives of crime; and if so, it is true, as Lord Macaulay said: "the right to punish crime, involves the right to prevent it." Then surely these one thousand six hundred and ninety-three youths in Preston county, should be made partakers of the great educational feast so liberally prepared for them at so great an expenditure.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

D H Savage.....	2	R F Rightmere.....	1
A T Holt.....	2	J S Walter.....	1
A E Davis.....	1	H W McCafferty.....	1
H C Jones.....	1	R J Ciohan.....	1
A F McMillan.....	1	A Rightmire.....	1
C H Foreman.....	2	J M Litzinger.....	2
A W Snider.....	2	Miss Hattie B Jones.....	1
J P Jeffeys.....	2	Miss Sarah E Frush.....	2
A A Mennear.....	1	Mrs S V Nester.....	2
Mason Watson.....	2	Miss J L Vandavert.....	2
W S Bayles.....	1	Miss Leodica Frankhouse.....	2
W Paston.....	1	Miss Laura McGrew.....	1
W R Shaffer.....	1	Mrs J E David.....	2
H C Poston.....	2	Miss Jennie Loar.....	2
James E Michael.....	1	Miss Alice A Mattingly.....	2
George Shaw.....	2	Miss Lucy A Mattingly.....	2
I H Hawthorn.....	1	Miss Flora Bonafield.....	2
John H Holt.....	1	Miss Kate Daley.....	1
E W McMillan.....	2	Miss Mary A Anderson.....	2
O C Carroll.....	1	Miss Alberta Shaffer.....	1
Daniel Watson.....	2	Miss Maggie Gordan.....	2
J A Bower.....	1	Miss Sarah Listod.....	2
Benjamin Arnold.....	1	Miss Melissa Glenn.....	2
Eli Albright.....	2	Miss Hattie R Raney.....	1
I A Beaty.....	2	Miss Aberta Glenn.....	2
A M Coburn.....	2	Miss Ella Coggett.....	1
W Y Clyne.....	1	Miss Martha McGee.....	2
William B Dodge.....	2	Miss Mary Swearingen.....	2
George S Deokins.....	2	Miss Mary Bayles.....	1
Pailey Debery.....	2	Miss Margaret Shahan.....	2
B H Elsey.....	1	Miss Hatue Carrice.....	3
Taylor Friend.....	1	Miss Mary A Guthrie.....	2
John H Feather.....	1	Wm M McGinnis.....	2
J A Feather.....	2	B M Squiers.....	2
W B Freeland.....	2	T M Chidister.....	2
M C Feather.....	2	W A Gooseman.....	2
L M Fike.....	1	T S Cunningham.....	1
Frank Gochey.....	2	Frank McKee.....	1
Jessee Hays.....	1	E G Arnold.....	1
Scott Jones.....	1	A I Deberry.....	2
C N Lee.....	2	I H Cuppet.....	2
Isaac P Martin.....	1	J L Cuppet.....	3
George A Mayor.....	2	W W Smith.....	1
J A Nugent.....	2	Marshal Friend.....	1
W F Nine.....	2	W M Emery.....	2
M E Robinson.....	2	I L Steed.....	1
H L Thaffer.....	3	L F Myers.....	1
A S Teats.....	2	F P Burk.....	1
Charles T Vansickle.....	2	William Colier.....	2
M Wolf.....	2	I I Hadman.....	2
T B Wolf.....	2	Evan King.....	2
J W Yeast.....	3	S T Wiley.....	1
Ezra Elsy.....	1	I S Nedrow.....	1
Jacob Feeam.....	1	John Mathew.....	1
Samuel Graham.....	1	Milford Cuppet.....	1
John R Pell.....	1	E H Abraham.....	1
Joseph Graham.....	1	Westley Shahan.....	2
S H Arnett.....	3	W A Wolf.....	2
J A Jackson.....	2	I M Rush.....	1
S N Rodgers.....	2	S C Shaw.....	2
H B Fortney.....	1	R S Brown.....	1
M S Hinerman.....	1	Stephen A Stansberry.....	1
J D Eichelberger.....	2	I E McGrew.....	1
J M Laughridge.....	2	Rudolph Protzman.....	2
J W Shahan.....	1	Daniel Bower.....	3
William A Watson.....	2		
A F Simpson.....	1		

PUTNAM COUNTY.—ADDISON WOLFE, *Sup't.*

I have the honor herewith, to forward my first annual report of the condition of the Free Schools of Putnam county. Owing to the failure of the secretary of Pocatalico District to furnish me with his report at the proper time, I have been unable to make and forward my own report at an earlier date. To prevent these delays, it seems to

me that the County Superintendent should be clothed with power to compel the Secretaries to perform their duties.

There are in this county two graded, and fifty-six common schools, which are distributed among the different districts as follows: In the Independent District of Winfield one common school in operation this year six months. In Buffalo District, there were ten white and one colored common school, and one graded school, all of which were in operation four months. In Curry District there were ten common and one graded school, in operation three and one-half months. In Pocatalico there were nine common schools, in operation six months. In Scott there were ten common schools in operation four months. In Teayse's Valley there are seven common schools, six of which were in operation four months; the seventh only three months. In Union there were ten schools in operation four months.

Most of the school houses in the county are in good condition, and supplied with comfortable desks and seats. Three new houses have been built during the year.

With a few exceptions, I find the people of this county in favor of a system of Free Schools; but to some of the features of the present system, there are many objections. I shall mention the most important:

1st. It is urged by many, that the district system is unjust, as it gives the wealthy and populous district a longer term of school, and lighter taxes than its poor and sparsely settled neighbor. In Pocatalico District the largest salaries have been paid to teachers; the schools have been kept up six months, with a tax of twenty-five cents on the hundred dollars valuation; while in Curry the lowest wages have been paid, and the schools kept up only three and one-half months, the people paying a tax of fifty cents on the hundred dollars valuation.

The grading of teachers on each branch is certainly a great benefit, but the Examining Board is giving general dissatisfaction to both teachers and officers. It is not always convenient for teachers to attend the board at stated times, instead of at any time, as was the case heretofore. Trustees cannot have their schools commence just at the time it would suit the people, because the teacher has not been examined. It is no use to pay three men to do what one can do, and I am of opinion that the wages paid to the extra two, would be better applied to the School Fund of the county. The examinations as now conducted are no fairer tests than the old method. Indeed, I do not think them at all fair, for when many are together for examination, it is impossible to keep them from communicating with each other. The result is, that many get grades to which they are not entitled. In short, the whole thing is a humbug and fraud upon the people. Let the Legislature be sure to abolish the Examining Board, and make such other amendments as in their wisdom may appear most necessary for the good of the Free Schools.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

Maggie Grove	2	G T Anderson	1
Minnie Johnson	2	Miss Alice Martin	2
Vira Stevens	1	F M Sovine	2
Hattie Horn	2	H M Sovine	2

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES Continued.

Ira Hanley.....	1	Uriah Tucker	3
Chas F Call.....	3	W L Easterday..	2
Lycurgus Handley	2	J C Billups	2
J N Casto	3	James T Morris	4
E E Starcher.....	2	S J Kane	1
Wm Starcher	2	W H Martt	3
A C Blair	2	Miss Fannie Stark.....	2
Miss Sarah Leete.....	2	W T Alexander.....	1
Miss Mattie Stark	2	E H Tucker	1
A Colter	1	Wm E Heindon	2
J H Colter	2	Miss Emma Thompson	1
S N Williams	2	Mahlon Thompson	2
S E Saunders	2	Wm R Wilson (colored).....	3
J R Shank.....	2	W A Nicholas	1
A P Thomas.....	2	J A Fowlkes	2
D H Thomas	2	C M Ferrar	2
J H Kinnison.....	2	C M Smith	3
T D Honaker.....	1	J T Womeldorf.....	2
C F Nash.....	2	Mrs Luella Frazier.....	2
Lewis Bronaugh.....	2	Mrs E E Buffington	2
C A Allen	2	Miss M J Cooper	3
H E Burford	3	Miss M A Burnside	2
J E Beller	3	S E Hartley	1
C A Jividen.....	3	Miss Carrie Hughart.....	2
C E Ross.....	2	S V Hartley	1
Veto Farrar	2	Miss S J Jones.....	1
J A Snell.....	2	Miss Lucy M Clark	1
J T Lanham	2	C M Sovine	3
L P Proffitt	1	T M Conner.....	1
R H Deardorf	2	J R Jimmerson (colored).....	5
John C Brown	1	J W King.....	2
R C Crusan.....	1	M M Parsons	3
A A Handley	2	J H Kinnerson	1
E M McCallister.....	1	C A Jividen.....	2
C S Hoover	2	H C Tribble	2
J P Smith	2	Miss Bettie C Reynolds..	2
Miss C E Buffington	2	R W Lewis	2
S W Leete	2	J M Killey	1
Miss Annie V Brown.....	1	Miss Mary Stuart	2
Miss Amanda Miller.....	2	C M Ferrar	1

RALEIGH COUNTY.—Geo. W. Cook, *Sup't.*

There has been quite an improvement on the part of teachers, and consequently they have given more general satisfaction in teaching. The several districts are tolerably well furnished with houses. In Trap Hill one house caught fire from a defective flue, and was burnt down. The greatest barrier to the success of the school system is the financial condition of the districts. Some of them have been in debt for several years, and continue so. The Boards of the several districts, in determining the amount to be levied, do not make sufficient allowance for old orders, commission, and delinquents, and consequently the fund falls short. Some of the districts were compelled to discontinue their schools at the close of three months. Teachers manifest quite an interest in attending the County Institute, and doubtless it has been a means of instruction and advancement to them. By no means would we have the act, authorizing County Institutes, repealed. We have had three schools, kept up during the summer, which have afforded means of instruction to young teachers.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

S A Williams.....	2	G B Vines.....	2
Sianna Roles	4	Anderson Stover	3
Thaddeus Scott.....	2	Joseph Carper	2
John Webb.....	3	Virginia McGinnis.....	3
Geo Bailey.....	2	L F Meador.....	1
C M Callaway.....	3	Allen Williams.....	4

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES—*Continued.*

M E Vass.....	2	D F Hale.....	1
Harvey Cook.....	2	Alex Watts.....	3
Daniel Hollandsworth.....	4	Ardella Pack.....	3
Wm C Hollandsworth.....	2	Wm S Mandervort.....	3
A W Hawley.....	2	Robert McCormack.....	3
Frank Bailey.....	3	J N Parker.....	2
J W Johnson.....	3	J H Jordan.....	3
Emily Prince.....	3	John Lilly.....	2
A C Godbey.....	4	C M Breed.....	3
M L Ellison.....	2	Francis Furrow.....	3
German Clay.....	5	A B Vines.....	3
Cephas Lilly.....	3	T C Miller.....	3
T J Callaway.....	2	Wm P Mankin.....	3
Wm G Callaway.....	2	Martha McVey.....	3
Jas F Webb.....	3	Sarah Godbey.....	3
Jas A Townsley.....	5	Emmanuel Green.....	4
Milton Curtis.....	3	Melissa Robinson.....	2
N F Orvis.....	2	P P Garland.....	2
J S McCarthy.....	2	S G Ellison.....	3
John McVey.....	2	Wm L Bragg.....	3
Jane McVey.....	3	Joseph Maynor.....	4
A J Hutchinson.....	3	Elam Scarbrough.....	4
O S Riffe.....	2	Wm Garretson.....	3
F H Brickey.....	3	E H Daniel.....	3
Wm H McGinnis.....	2	Jno F Jones.....	2
Jane Calfee.....	2	Wm T Harper.....	3
Lizzie Oaks.....	3	C P Stover.....	2
A J Williams.....	3	G G Thompson.....	3
B P Richman.....	3	A L Richmond.....	3
Wm S Richman.....	3		

RANDOLPH COUNTY—ALONZO F. WILMOTH, *Sup't.*

I have the honor to submit to you the annual report of the condition of the Free Schools of Randolph county for the school year ending August 31st, 1878. I had hoped to be able to forward it to you by the 30th of September, but owing to the failure of two of the district secretaries to report within the time required by law, I am a few days behind time.

The financial part of this report shows that the total receipts for all purposes during the year, amounted to \$7,021.99. The total expenditures for building purposes amounted to \$1,922.17, and for teachers \$4,832.33, making the total expenditures for all purposes \$6,754.50, and leaving a balance to the credit of the county of \$267.49, \$219.02 of which belongs to the Building Fund and \$48.47 to the Teachers' Fund. The average salary of teachers was \$24.85. The cost of education per pupil was \$4.71. As you will see, I have only reported the amount of the last year's levies and the money that really came into the sheriff's hands. I have not attempted to make a statement of the balance to the credit of the different districts at the beginning of the school year. The old fund is in the hands of the late sheriff, and a part of it subject to outstanding orders. The amount of these orders is not definitely known at this time, and it would not be possible to make a correct financial statement of it now. Besides, this fund is in litigation in the Circuit Court, and the present sheriff refuses to be charged with it till it has been finally adjudicated and paid over to him. When he receives the money, and is charged with it, it can be reported, hereafter, as money from other sources.

Fifty-seven schools have been taught in the county during the year, the average term being three and a half months. Some of the Boards of Education failed to lay a levy sufficient, with the aid of the

State Fund, to keep the schools in operation four months, as required by law. This, however, was not intentional, but was owing to the fact that the boards did not *know* what levy was necessary. It is impossible to ascertain just what levy is necessary to run the schools the required time.

During the winter I visited most of the schools; and from what I saw and heard of their success, I believe that the school work of last year will compare favorably with that of any previous year. The attendance was about the same as that of the year previous. I believe, however, that our teachers were more industrious and faithful than usual. There has been, I am glad to say, a decided improvement in our teachers within the last year or two. This is encouraging; for as are the teachers, so will be the schools.

Our County Institute was held at Beverly, in February, and, considering the inexperience of our teachers in Institute work, I believe it was a success. We enrolled during the session thirty-seven teachers. Several of our teachers were not in attendance, some having attended Institutes in other counties, and others being allowed by the boards to teach the eight days. Previous to its organization there was a manifest opposition to the Institute, but those who witnessed its practical workings and have observed its results, no longer doubt the utility of these meetings. I am clearly of the opinion that these Institutes, if properly conducted, will accomplish incalculable good. They have already not only enkindled the enthusiasm of teachers for their profession, increased their knowledge of the school branches and of the methods of instruction, but the interest of the public generally has been awakened in behalf of the cause of education.

By reference to my statistical report, you will see that there are in the county two thousand five hundred and eighty-one youths of school age, and we register in our schools one thousand six hundred and forty-three, while we have an average attendance of only one thousand and twenty-five, or not quite 40 per cent. This meager attendance is certainly a great evil, and one that should be speedily arrested if possible. Generous provision has been made to meet the expense of educating all the children, both of the rich and the poor. Still it seems that the parents of many of these children do not sufficiently appreciate an education to allow their children to receive this great blessing which legislation has provided for them. A good common school education is the inalienable and sacred right of every child, and it should be regarded as unworthy of a citizen of this Republic to bring up a child without giving him such an education as will prepare him for the discharge of the duties of an American citizen.

We have in the county fifty-two school houses, twenty-seven frame and twenty-five log. The houses, lots and furniture are together valued at \$13,933.50. Two houses were erected during the year.

At the last general school-election, Mingo District voted against the "power to levy." The vote of the district was again taken on the question last August, and was almost unanimously in favor of the levy.

Judging the future from the past, I am sanguine in my belief that the efforts of those who are laboring faithfully in the cause of educa-

tion will be crowned with success, and that the continuance and prosperity of our Free School System is a certainty.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

Jas J. Madden.....	8	Miss Lucy Sexton.....	2.
J M Hamilton.....	4	Miss F. Gawthrop.....	2
Arthur Bradley.....	2	W S Strader.....	1
Miss Luthera Bradly.....	2	Eugene Brown.....	2
C A Steele.....	2	J R Clem.....	5
B W Taylor.....	2	Martin Madden.....	4
J H U Butcher.....	4	Arnold Wilmoth.....	3
Miss Teresa Cain.....	2	Miss M H Butcher.....	1
Miss Nora Moore.....	2	M E Lawson.....	3
W P Madden.....	3	W Bennett.....	5
F P Madden.....	2	W H Bosely.....	5
J H Fitzwater.....	3	S W Wilfong.....	5
J E Bosworth.....	3	Bascum Warner.....	4
CH Rice.....	3	James Moyle.....	5
L H Schoonover.....	4	John Moyle.....	4
L D Wilmoth.....	1	Miss M A Dunkin.....	2
Miss S A Channell.....	2	J W Price.....	1
J B Canfield.....	2	W L Kee.....	1
E R Skidmore.....	3	C Marsteller.....	4
J H Hall.....	2	J H Daft.....	5
J B Blackman.....	5	A L Findley.....	5
A S Bosworth.....	2	Miss Angelia Scott.....	3
T C Curtis.....	2	Miss M A Mayo.....	3
P C Welby.....	2	P M Hart.....	4
Miss Maud Cheneoweth.....	5	John Hutton.....	1
R H Scott.....	5	J C Beed.....	3
Miss Luceba Morgan.....	4		

RITCHIE COUNTY.—G. W. LOWTHER, *Sup't.*

I have the honor to submit that the general prosperity of our schools during the past year has been good. We have eighty-eight school houses in the county, and have had a "four months" school in each. I am sorry to report that I was prevented by sickness from visiting a few of the schools while in session. However I visited all but five, and found them, with very few exceptions, in a prosperous condition. It is gratifying to note that most of our schools were taught by home teachers, only six being from other States, and about the same number from other counties.

The Board of Examiners raised the standard of qualification at the beginning of the year, requiring ninety per cent for grade No. 1, and it has had a marked effect upon the schools. It has stimulated our teachers in their efforts to qualify themselves, and consequently many of them are much more successful than ever before. Several of our young teachers are attending school, and we may expect a more efficient corps of teachers next year than we have had this year.

Another thing destined to greatly improve the character and qualifications of our teachers is the Teachers' Institute. We held four County Institutes in the county with an average daily attendance of forty teachers, only ten teachers in the county failing to attend. I consider that it has already accomplished much good, but by a more thorough knowledge of its object, and better acquaintance with the work it is designed to do, we expect to make it much more useful in the future than it has been in the past. The Institute law has many foes in this county, but we expect to make it a source of so much benefit that its enemies will be ashamed they were ever known to oppose it.

Notwithstanding the general prosperity of our schools, there are difficulties to contend with in the administration of the present system, to which I would most respectfully call your attention. Grant district, with \$59,581.88 worth of taxable property, and having the advantage of an annual income from the railroad of more than \$1,000.00 can support twenty-four schools and pay its teachers salaries from \$20.00 to \$40.00 per month by laying its levy at fifteen cents on the \$100.00. While Murphy district, with about one-third that amount of property and no railroad must support twenty schools, and in order to do it must lay its levy at sixty cents on the \$100.00, and then can only pay teachers with first grade certificates \$26.00 per month.

Under this arrangement all the first grade teachers rush for employment in the better districts, and the poorer districts must take such teachers as they can get, which is generally of the third and fourth grade. The effect upon the schools is sadly noticeable. The people of Murphy district, seeing they cannot compete with other districts, have but little energy or enthusiasm in the matter and consequently no advancement. I would respectfully submit that in my humble opinion, this should be remedied by generalizing the funds of the different districts; let the school administration of a County Board of Education, consisting of a president; a commissioner from each district; and the County Superintendent, the latter acting as secretary. This county pays its secretaries \$25.00 each, amounting to \$125.00. By adding this to the salary of the County Superintendent according to the above arrangement, it would enable him to devote more time to the business and his reports would most likely be more correct than they are in many instances under the present system.

Another defect in our present system, and to which your attention has been called by others, is the irregularity with which our school funds are disbursed. I think the sheriff should be required to pay over at stated times the school moneys to a county treasurer, so that teachers would be sure of their money as soon as earned.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

J M McKimey.....	1	Mary Cams.	2
Wm L Hays.....	1	L H Trippett.	2
C N Snodgrass.....	1	S A Lowther	2
Mattie Morris.....	1	I B Lambert.....	2
S L Young.....	1	Mattie C Dilworth.....	3
T M Murphy.....	1	Viola Reed.....	3
J H Linneger.....	1	W S Luzader.....	3
Aaron Delong.....	1	Emza F Randolph ..	3
G A Corbin.....	1	Dora Heaton.	3
M L Corbin.....	1	Mary A McGinnis ..	3
J R Conn.....	1	Mattie C Ehret ..	3
J A Tannehill.....	1	J G Lowther.	3
R H Martin.....	1	Maggie Wolf.....	3
E S Showalter.....	1	Callie McGregor.....	3
J F Cunningham.....	1	A P Garner.	3
Wm F Hudkins.....	1	Barter McGregor.....	3
Elizabeth Basim.....	1	Wm Jones.....	3
Hiram S Dotts.....	1	F A Sayre.....	3
Joseph V Dotts.....	1	Alice Ayers ..	3
Wm M Cox.....	1	Ella Pierpoint.	3
J E Cross	1	Bessy Corbin.....	3
Addie Pierpoint.....	1	Clark Woofter.....	3
Zora B Cannon.....	1	Laura V Hall.....	3
Jacob Cokeley.....	2	Ella Rymer.....	3

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES—Continued.

N E Lough	2	Lewis Garrison	3
S P Crumet	2	G S Hoff	3
C J Glover	2	D A McGinnis	3
W C McKinley	2	R E Fast	3
G S Smith	2	Hattie Snode	3
D W Cox	2	Cena Norton	3
Jacob Ritchey	2	Wm J Lynch	3
Albert Thrash	2	Maggie A Bee	3
D. B. Cunningham	2	Julia A Dotts	3
Lucy B Kercheval	2	John Sharpnack	3
Mary Gordon	2	J M B Reed	4
W S Luzader	2	Emma Horner	4
Addie Lowther	2	M L Law	4
D V Bayne	2	T J Ehret	4
G M Wigner	2	T M Boyd	4
L T Buckman	2	Melcena J McGinnis	4
Alice Reed	2	A D Adams	4
Myrth Emma Bartlett	2	Ellen Durkin	4
Wm L Miller	2	John O Lynch	4
Emma McCollum	2	Kate Douglass	4
W B McGregor	2	S H Criss	5
P J Massey	2	E L Goff	5
Maggie Cokeley	2	J S Archbold	5
T W Ireland	2	Ben Davis	5
J F Griffin	2	Rosa McGregor	5
C Létorrie	2	V F Randolph	5

ROANE COUNTY.—P. C. VINYARD, *Sup't.*

On entering upon the duties of my office I found it necessary, as the schools had advanced and the general school interest had increased, to raise the standard of teachers. This I did, and endeavored to keep it up throughout all my examinations, thus giving to teachers, if possible, no grade certificate but that justly merited, and I think *all* examinations should be a *thorough* test of scholarship. Teachers should not be paid according to grade of certificate as that has a tendency to make rogues and liars of those examined. They should be hired by the Board of Education, according to reputation as teachers.

We have eighty-two schools, taught generally by efficient teachers, of which eighty-three were examined this year; in which 14 received No. 1 certificates; 41 No. 2; 24 No. 3, and 2 No. 4, and 2 rejected; besides we have five teachers holding professional certificates, and four holding Normal School Diplomas.

Our Institutes have been doing good work in the promotion of our school interest, but in the present system of law it does not meet with success, as it forces the teacher to attend or lose his *per diem* salary, thus he comes in many instances, merely to be present, and thinks of taking no active part, whatever, and stubbornly performs duty assigned him. And the citizens view it as robbing their children of eight days schooling, and that *they* are paying the teachers for his instruction. Not knowing that the teachers of this State labors twenty-two days, while all other States require their teachers to labor twenty days for a month—the teacher works two days for nothing. I would suggest that the school month be made twenty days, and that the teacher could attend either State, County or District Institute to make the eight days required.

I made seventy-two visits to schools and found most of them, I am happy to say, in a prosperous condition; but one fault is that all branches required by law, are not taught; I called the attention of

teachers to form classes in all the common branches if possible. While the school houses are generally good, or can be made so by a little repairing, they are rudely seated, some with tolerably good desks, some with long benches, and some with nothing but rails and slabs for seats, and all poorly furnished with black-board surface. Our school property is greatly destroyed every year by holding big meetings in the houses. While I am in favor of religion, I am opposed to carrying it on in camp-meetings in our school houses, and if so, let each denomination, holding such meetings, pay all damage done school property. In my visits to schools I noticed the progress of school and method of teaching, heard recitations, gave instructions where necessary, and called the attention of the school to the importance of getting an education.

NORMAL SCHOOLS.—There are several teachers from this county attending the Normal Schools of this State. I wish them success. I look upon the Normal Schools as the leading element of our Free School system. They give it vitality.

I know this report to be incorrect in the finances of some districts, as the desultory and ignorant way in which some of the secretary's keep their books, and make their reports, readily shows that a correct report cannot be made from the material furnished.

I do favor the extending of the duties of the County Superintendent making all orders of finance pass under his investigation, and by so doing thousands of dollars would be saved yearly, and let him keep all books and make all reports.

LEVY.—I think our coming Legislature will deem it important to make all levies for school purposes a state levy and save so much confusion about the levy question.

Our Free School system has a wide and popular hold on the masses of our county, which is shown by the almost unanimous vote given in favor of levy at our last election.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

Miss Arrena Tyron.....	3	D B Satmer.....	0
J A A Vandale.....	2	I N Ross.....	1
Miss Fanny Bates.....	2	W F Fore.....	0
Miss Ida C Flesher.....	3	Miss Belle Springston.....	3
Miss Virginia Flesher.....	4	W F Bernon.....	2
N B Hoff.....	2	Miss Elarence Armstrong.....	2
Miss Mary L Butchers.....	3	Miss Myrtie Armstrong.....	3
W W Hammack.....	3	E W Straley.....	3
Henry Smyth.....	2	I F Conley.....	1
M Hammack.....	3	J H Hunt.....	2
Webster Butcher.....	3	J C Whited.....	1
Jeremiah Young.....	2	J W Ball.....	3
John K Young.....	3	Bennett Cook.....	2
S B Seaman.....	2	J R Davis.....	2
J N Board.....	2	W P Riley.....	2
Mc D Hershberger.....	1	C C Summers.....	2
Wm Sutler.....	3	T W Hughes.....	2
C S Hall.....	3	C W Flesherman.....	2
Miss Sarah Keffer.....	3	I L Riley.....	2
Miss Rhoda Keffer.....	4	F E Riley.....	1
Miss B C Brown.....	2	J K Jones.....	1
Mrs R L Cork.....	2	Miss A C Riley.....	2
M F Simmons.....	2	J D Arnold.....	1
Lewis Peters.....	2	Miss M F Arnold.....	2
Miss Nellie Daniels.....	2	M F Osborne.....	2
Miss Louisa Stutler.....	2	J E Taylor.....	2
C W Lewellen.....	1	J E Hunt.....	1
M F Lewellen.....	2	C D Hunt.....	2

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES—Continued

Adison Casto.....	2	W E Ryan.....	2
J W Lowman.....	2	Miss L Gordon.....	3
Edward Corder.....	2	J W Gordon.....	3
C C Stewart.....	3	J D Hopkins.....	8
J B Smith.....	2	M A C Hopkins.....	2
W L Starkey.....	2	H B Hughes.....	1
J B Short.....	3	L M Ferrell.....	1
W P Elliott.....	3	J C Lowe.....	2
W B Carper.....	3	Miss S Springston.....	3
S B Carper.....	2	C Bartlette.....	2
C A Dawson.....	4	C L Goodwin.....	3
John A House.....	1	L D Starkey.....	1
J F House.....	1	Miss B E Ferguson.....	2
J G Fugate.....	2		

SUMMERS COUNTY—D. G. LILLY, *Sup't.*

In presenting my second annual report, I have the satisfaction of informing you that I have secured some improvement in the keeping of school accounts, though we have decided room for improvement yet, as shown in the fact that hardly any trustees have reported, and the accounts of apportionment for transfers and colored schools have been very imperfectly kept; and as I showed last year, some of our *forms* are ill adapted to the purpose. Any one that understands simple alligation knows the falsity of Prof. Stahl's rule for finding the average percentages, as also the form for finding the average ages, which latter can be done only by taking the sum of the ages throughout the county as the dividend, and the same for the State. So the book register that is supplied not to *all*, but to *a few*, of the schools, which requires the teachers to put down the names in alphabetical order, as if they had the supernatural gift of prophecy, so as to know before hand precisely what persons would attend the school.

I think, on the whole, that our school system is improving. There are now schools established within the reach of all our citizens as far as I can learn, though there are a few without houses in Pipe Stem District, for the reason that the Board has not yet made satisfactory arrangements about land for building sites. Still a county as poor as this cannot be expected to have a truly efficient system of schools while under so unjust and unequal a system of taxation that some districts can never run the four months, which is the minimum required by law. The constitution positively states that *all taxation for general purposes* must be uniform throughout the State, and the compromise clause for district taxation does not exonerate the Legislature from the duty of making the State Fund large enough to guarantee, with what money the local tax may raise, the required minimum of four months to every district in the State. As to your belief that the less cultivated districts do not require so much schooling as the more refined neighborhoods and that a general tax would rob the strong to help the weak, it is only the old cry against the Free School system *per se*. It must be remembered that the white population of our mountains are mostly of the royal saxon stock, the race especially capable of the highest degree of developement; and while some families, by gross indulgence in strong drink, tobacco and coffee, and an undue preponderance of flesh in diet, without the counteracting influence of literary advantages on the mind, have degenerated into

"mean whites," this is not true of our people as a whole, and the bracing air and magnificent scenery of our mountains are influences for development not to be despised, but we cannot do as should be expected while hampered with so inefficient a system of schools. I repeat, that it is manifest injustice, tax one district four times as much to the dollar as another, and give the former only half the schooling that the latter has, as is often actually the case in our State. The Normal School at Concord, and the different Institutes we have had in the past three years (commencing with the Peabody Institute at Hinton in 1875), together with the introduction of the West Virginia Educational Journal among our teachers, have had an appreciable effect in raising the professional standard; but the Normal School is sadly deficient in apparatus, and our Institute law has not as yet had a sufficient trial. I appointed as conductor of our first County Institute, a teacher long and widely known for extraordinary skill in the art of teaching and for life-long services to the cause of education outside the school room; but the majority of the teachers importuned me so persistently to allow them District Institutes, that I allowed them to assemble in districts the *first year*, with the result that might have been expected, the meetings not doing as much good as should have been desired, and as I informed you in a special communication, two of the district secretaries allowed full pay to teachers that failed to attend.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

Peter L Alderson.....	1	J H Haynes	2
Chas H Graham	1	L M Green.....	3
H Zack Martin.....	1	Marcellus Buhrman Goodall ..	3
Valerius Victor Austin.....	1	William Houchins, Jr.....	1
Chas Allen Clark	1	J Granville Meador.....	1
Wm J Kirk, ...	2	Davis Jackson Mann	2
Wm Moody Meador	2	Charles William Gore.....	2
Wm L Commack	2	Luther Lybrook Chambers.	3
J J Foster.....	3	Albert E Cotton.....	1
Wm Henry Manser.....	2	L B Arnett.....	2
Jas H Miller.....	1	William H Holroyd	2
H J James.....	1	Floyd Walker (colored)	3
M L Hurley.....	1	Joseph H Harvey.....	3
John E Akers	4	Lewis C Harvey.....	3
Wm A Lowe.....	1	Joseph Peters.....	1
N McNeer.....	2	William Robert Neely	2
John W Harvey.....	2	Alonzo M Hutchison.....	1
W B Dean	1	P B Patton	2
Clemens Green.....	3	I. T. Armstead (colored).....	2
Geo Wm Leftwich.....	3	H F Kesler	1
Jas F Akers	2	F H Brown	3
Chas V Ashworth.....	2	Miss Mary B Miller.....	1
Thomas John Cotton.....	2	Miss Anna A Hoge	1
John James Meador.....	2	Miss Rebecca C Pack	1
David Newton Ellis.....	2	Miss Lucinda C Ball	1
A A Allen	1	Miss Mary Martha Foster	2
Elijah B Lilly.....	2	Miss I Foster.....	2
J W Alderson.....	2	Miss Lilly Dale Evans	2
J P Maddy.....	2	Miss Araminta Meador.....	2
R W Clark	2	Miss Ella M Lively.....	1
G B Scott	2	Miss V V Belcher	2
George Washington Ballengee.....	1	Miss Nancy Belle Clark	1
Wellington L Hutchison	2	Miss Helen Porterfield (colored).	3

TAYLOR COUNTY.—HORACE NOYES, *Sup't.*

From imperfections in reports it has been nearly, if not quite impossible, to make a perfectly correct report of both financial and

statistical matters relating to the schools in the county, but I have endeavored to get at facts as nearly as possible, and while from the manner of keeping account in some districts no exactness could be reached, yet I have no doubt the money has been honestly appropriated by the several Boards, and I hope to induce the secretaries to be more accurate in keeping their accounts, and to this end have recommended that they use three books; one for recording all the acts of the board; one as a day book for financial accounts; one as a ledger with accounts opened with sheriffs, and each sub-district, &c, by these means the accounts can at all times be corrected if found otherwise.

In Pruntytown Independent Districts, no levy has been made for Buidling Fund, and I learn such as been their usual practice, yet they have expended more than \$100.00, and charged under that head. It is due to them to add that they claim their Charter authorizes them to do so, but their accounts cannot be made to balance, nor can mine made as it is from theirs, unless forced, this I do not consider that I am allowed to do, nor can I adopt this course with any of the reports that do not allow of it legitimately.

In regard to Institute work in our county, the last year it undoubtedly had a good effect and was plainly visible over the whole county. Our schools were never so prosperous, and with but slight exceptions, all teachers seemed desirous to do their best and consequently were successful in most instances. But for the coming session I have great fears as we cannot go to the expense for outside help as we did last year and without this the matter will soon grow wearisome.

It must be a man of far more than common abilities and attainments to conduct the Institute for eight days and keep up the interest as it must be, or the time is worse than lost. I therefore as requested, give the opinion that the law needs at least to be greatly modified, the time reduced one-half or more and may be altogether repealed.

The system of three trustees has in this county worked evil, and only evil, different trustees in the sub-districts have had their favorite for teacher, and being unwilling to yield, have caused much trouble. In one sub-district five or six teachers have been partially or entirely engaged, yet the schools have now no teacher.

I would also suggest a re-arranging the blanks for reports, especially those of the secretary of the boards. To illustrate, the headings "in sheriff's hands" and "balance on hand" are repetitions, as all the money on hand is in the sheriff's hands, and all money in sheriff's hands is balance on hand.

Also would suggest that all the headings of columns be printed at right angles with the columns. This would be a great help to one unaccustomed to accounts, while the eye is hunting up the proper column they frequently lose sight of the column before.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

Miss Nellie Core	2	B F Burlett	2
E W Miller	3	F C Davis	2
John F Mason	1	T B Lordyce	2
James B Martin.	2	J R Reed	3
James Letzinger.	5	J L Leonard.	1
P H O'Brien	1	S N Tharpes.	1

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES--Continued.

E L Hertzog	1	Miss A A Coplin.....	2
Miss Jennie Brock.....	3	S C Nixon.....	2
Miss M M Barnard.....	3	Miss S Bainbridge	2
Miss A Cochran.....	2	J M Jeffers.....	1
Miss Gussie Mackin..	3	Miss Hellen St Charles	1
Miss C E Bainbridge	3	O C Kincaid.....	4
Solomon Poe.....	2	Mrs S A Martin.....	4
James Cochran	1	M J Lawler.....	2
W L Ryan ..	1	Miss Willa Grove	1
N W Newbraugh	2	Millard Cather ..	1
J P Murphy	2	Miss Agnes Hall ..	2
W F Thomas	3	Miss Dora Sinsil ..	1
H L Knotts	2	T W Rightmure ..	1
Mrs M M Love.....	3	M L Shields.....	2
Stephen Stiles Jr.....	1	Miss Augusta Sinsil.....	2
Howard Cather.....	1	J W Selvy.....	1
Israel Phillip. (colored)	4	Miss C E Coleman.....	1
S W Poe	2	T J McRa.....	3
G N Martin.....	2	W H McDaniel.....	4
Mrs Kate E Goodman	2	D K Ford	3
H I Snively.....	1	G W Throop.....	2
R A Morrow ..	1	David Knight	4
Mrs M Harstock.....	5	T G Martin.....	2
E W Winch ..	2	J P Scott.....	1
Miss Nolie Core ..	1	J H Holt.....	2
Mrs M J Grove ..	2	J M Brohard.....	1
E C Demoss ..	4	W W Payne.....	1

TUCKER COUNTY.—L. S. AUVIL, *Sup't.*

There were thirty schools taught in Tucker county the past year, nearly all of which gave satisfaction.

I visited all the schools but four, and found the teachers laboring with earnestness for the advancement of education. While the teachers were engaged in doing all they could for the interest of their respective schools, there were a great many drawbacks to their success. Some parents were foolish enough to keep their children at home in order to annoy the teachers. And right here let me say we need a compulsory law, in this county at any rate.

Some of the Boards of Education are at work doing all they can to make the Free School System a success, while other boards are dormant, not even willing to levy sufficient to run the schools, after the people have delegated them to do so. At this point I will say, boards should have power to levy for the support of Free Schools (the same as courts have the power to levy to pay the expenses of the county) without the people voting them that power.

We have three new school houses that will be ready for use this coming winter. Our county being in the backwoods, it will be some time before we get a sufficient number of houses for the accommodation of all the pupils in the county.

I fear our success will not be so grand the coming winter as I should like it to be. The respective Boards of Education have reduced the salaries of teachers to such an extent that it has already produced a kind of chaos. I think it all wrong. Our number one's will only get \$20.00, and in some districts only \$15.00 per month. I do think there ought to be a limit to the respective grades.

I will say, concerning the law setting forth and governing Institutes, I think it is just what we need to make the Free School System of education a success.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

Nelson D Adams	1	J F Jewel.....	3
J B Blackman	3	Miss Lizzie Burley.....	3
Andrew Moore	3	J T Shaffer.....	4
Lewis W Harris	4	J H Mester.....	4
Thomas G Daniels	2	Miss A G Gilmore	3
L E Gainer	2	Frank Ashby.....	4
P Y Runner.....	4	S P Hayes	4
L E Goff.....	2	Geo W White.....	3
S P Hayes.....	3	Talbert Fergusson.....	4
E C Moore.....	2	Geo W Shaffer.....	4
Sarah J Maxwell.....	1	S C Baker.....	3
O L Philips	3	G W Shaffer	3
J T Mason	2	C Y Day	2
S N Swisher.....	1	J M Strahn.....	2
James H Snyder	1	J C Robey	2
John M Shaffer.....	2	Mary James	4
James S Poling.....	3	A M Sample	2
J S D Bell	3	J B Lambert	3
Robert F Harris	3	James W Campbell.....	2
L S Copper	2	C S Watson	4
Miss Lehe Lynn.	2		

TYLER COUNTY.—T. N. PARKS, *Sup't.*

In making my fourth annual report of the Free Schools of Tyler county for the school year ending August 31, 1878, I take pleasure in submitting the following remarks:

DISTRICTS.

The county is divided into six districts, viz: Elsworth, Lincoln, Union, Meade, Centreville, and McElroy. These districts are subdivided into sixty-five.

SUB-DISTRICTS.

Many sections of the county that were sparsely settled when the Free School system came into operation, have become quite populous; hence many changes in sub-district lines have become necessary. Several new schools have already been organized, and others are needed, while still others will become imperative as the population increases. This condition of things rendered it hard for Boards of Education to erect houses accessible to many families. But as these changes are made from year to year, giving the people greater advantages of the schools, so annually public sentiment is enlisted more and more in favor of Free Schools.

We have in the county sixty-four

SCHOOL HOUSES,

which are: frames 54; brick 1, and logs 9. The log houses built are being replaced by frames. Three have been completed recently in Meade district. Many of these houses have been built for a number of years and need painting and other repairs; also, the school grounds in many places need enlarging, fencing, and other improvements. When school houses are situated where they are apt to remain, too much care cannot well be taken to make these improvements, as land is cheaper now than it will be in the future, and as great trouble, and

much ill feeling is caused by pupils trespassing on adjacent lands. Many of the school sites now contain only from one-fourth to one-half acre. But little effort has been made to render the school grounds attractive and pleasant. The grounds are unfenced, unshaded, and entirely without ornament. Teachers as well as school officers have shown too little concern for the condition and appearance of school houses and grounds. Unsightly heaps of ashes with other things have collected on school grounds, that for both the sanitary and æsthetical conditions of the schools should be removed.

THE TEACHERS EMPLOYED

in the county during the year for which we report were superior in literary qualifications to those of any other year; and I believe as a class they worked harder for the good of the schools than ever before. As a result for this work 310 pupils were enrolled in the county over the number enrolled the previous year; while there was an average daily attendance of 341 more than for the previous year. The teachers employed were all residents of the State with the exception of six who were from Ohio. But few lived outside the county. There were fifty-six males and eleven females employed, making a total of sixty-seven. Each school was taught for four months without serious interruption, with two exceptions. Much of this increased attendance, with the superior work done in the schools last winter, we attribute to the

TEACHERS' INSTITUTES

that were held in the county, especially the one held in Middlebourne in November, 1877, conducted by the County Superintendent and Prof. Wade, County Superintendent of Monongalia county, assisted by President Thompson, of the State University, and Mr. G. W. Atkinson, editor of the *Wheeling Standard*. Many questions of vital importance to the Public Schools were discussed in the Institute, prominent among which was the

GRADUATING SYSTEM

as originated and introduced by Prof. Wade into the Free Schools of Monongalia county, and as adopted and practiced in other counties of the State. The teachers of the county voted unanimously to adopt it in Tyler county. I visited every school in the county with one exception, (it being closed on account of sickness when I visited that part of the county,) usually spending one half day at each school. I notified each teacher when I would be at his school, requiring a full attendance of the school: the number who had completed the course of study up to the beginning of the school year; the number who would be able to complete it in one, two, and three years respectively, also requesting the presence of the trustees with as many others as could be present.

The time at each school was spent in aiding the teacher in grading the school and getting acquainted with the organization and condition of the school, as well as becoming acquainted personally as far as possible with each individual pupil, always insisting on a *regular*

course of study for the schools. In order to bring our work more fully before the people and to acquaint them the better with our plans we held an

EDUCATIONAL MEETING

each evening to which all were invited. We held thirty-eight of those meetings in the county, and usually spoke to crowded houses. The meetings were open to all, and we were often assisted and encouraged by teachers, parents, and others, by well and timely remarks. In carrying out the graduating system, and in order to test the thoroughness of those who wished to graduate in the Free School course, we held

DISTRICT EXAMINATIONS

about the time the schools were closing in the spring. As the classes in some districts were small from want of material, we thought best to combine as far as convenient. Four examinations were held in the county: one at Zion school house in Union District; one at Sistersville, in Lincoln District; one in Middlebourne, for Elsworth and Meade Districts; and one in Centreville, for Centreville and McElroy Districts. At those several examinations persons were examined in the seven branches directed to be taught in the Free Schools of the State, viz: orthography, reading, penmanship, arithmetic, English grammar, and geography; and many of them in several higher branches, such as physical geography, algebra, &c. All but five who entered the graduating class for 1878, were examined, unless prevented by sickness. Nearly all who were not examined requested to be continued another year. Several who were examined will teach the coming winter, and all are among the most promising young men and women of the county. The number in the graduating class for 1879 will be more than double the number in the class for 1878. The real usefulness and benefits of such a system will be known only as its effects are seen in the future.

To each one who sustained or passed a good and creditable examination, we granted a

DIPLOMA

neatly printed in colors on fine paper, and signed by the County Superintendent, the President of the Board of Education and the teacher, of the school to which the pupils belonged. It was deemed best not to grade these diplomas as in other counties, but fix a standard to which all should attain or not pass, which standard was fixed at 75 per cent of all the questions asked; also to give pupils the chance to pass on higher branches, and have them inserted on the face of their diplomas, which was thought to be a greater encouragement to scholarship than grading diplomas.

IN CONCLUSION.

I would return thanks to Col. D. D. Johnson, Hon. D. F. Pugh, Rev. J. T. Hickman, James Stealey and many others for the addresses delivered at the public examinations, and assistance rendered; also to all persons who assisted in rendering music, either vocal or instrumental.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

W G. Smith.....	1	Joseph Parr	1
S H Bell	2	H Morrow	4
J N Bell.....	2	Miss Mary Hartwick....	4
G W Loveall.....	2	Robert Smith.....	4
J A Maxwell.....	3	T C Hickman.....	2
J T Devaul.....	3	E McTracy	4
Joseph Williams	2	Miss C C Bowser.....	2
A Weekly.....	3	Miss N C Loveall, (re-examined).....	4
James McGee	2	E A. Williams.....	2
F M Keller	3	W W Patton.....	5
J W Britton	1	John Cole.....	3
D F Hissom.....	1	T C Hickman, (re-examined)	3
R S Taggart.	2	J W Hickman (re-examined).....	1
G W McBride	1	Rufus Ullum.....	3
J B Haught	3	M K Duty.....	1
Waldo Broadwater.....	3	C B Owens.....	2
N C Loveall	5	W R McIntyre.....	2
James Eddy	3	J N McIntyre.....	3
Jay Brooks	3	R B Edgell.....	4
Miss Bell Prichard ..	3	Isaac Barker.....	3
J B Haught.....	3	L F Davis.....	4
Daniel Dencher.....	3	C J Allen	1
G S Smith.....	2	Joseph Ankrom.....	2
Miss Belle J Bowser ..	3	Thos Greenbark.....	2
Miss Frank Smith.....	1	D A McGinnis.....	3
Miss Mattie Morrison.....	2	Waldo Broadwater (re-examined).....	3
Miss Emma Williams ..	2	J L Fordyce.....	1
L A Lowther.....	1	A N Fordyce.....	2
P K Wilcox.....	2	W W Burgiss.....	3
S C Van Camp.....	3	Rev H J Boatman.....	1
S C Van Camp, (re-examined).....	2	G W Baker.....	3
Miss Annie E Martin..	2	W A Smith	2
S S Grimes	2	Miss Cena Horton.....	3
J E Morgan.....	3	W R Smith	2
P B Lowry.....	1	Miss Emma Greene.....	4
J M Adams.....	2	G D Smith.....	2
J T Stewart.....	2	A B Wilson.....	State Certificate.
J W Hickman.....	2	J W Chesney.....	Normal Diploma.
N W Wells.....	2	O J Moore.....	"
S C McWilliams	1	Miss L V Joseph.....	"
H L Morris	2	J C Warner	Examiner.

UPSHUR COUNTY—J. S. REGER, *Sup't.*

I have the honor to send you herewith my first annual report of the condition of Free Schools in Upshur county. The schools, the past year, were all supplied with teachers, most of whom were earnest, faithful and capable.

The number of pupils enrolled and the average attendance both exceeded those of the preceding year.

The schools were all taught during the winter; *i. e.* commencing in the fall and ending in winter or spring. No change of teachers during the session occurred, except in one instance, in which, for some reason, the teacher left the school about the beginning of the last month, the remainder of the session being taught by another,

The people of Upshur have, from the organization of the State, been strongly in favor of Free Schools; and vote almost unanimously in favor of district levies.

One of the greatest hindrances to the efficient working of the school system here, is the irregular attendance of the pupils. This is partly owing to carelessness of parents, and partly to the fact that some portions of the county are so thinly settled that a large scope of territory has to be included in one sub-district, in order to secure the requisite number of pupils for a school; thus making the distance

to be traveled by some so great that the younger pupils can attend only in fair weather.

There were employed in the schools of the county, the past year, seventy-five teachers. To supply the schools the present year, seventy-eight teachers will be required, three new sub-districts having been laid off since last winter, in all of which school houses are in course of erection. In addition to the houses already named, one is being built in a sub-district in which, heretofore, they have been using an old log dwelling-house; and two have been completed in sub-districts in which schools have been taught in miserable "pole-cabins." Thus, for the first time since the organization of the school system, the county will be supplied entire with good, comfortable school houses.

There are two graded schools in this county; one at Buckhannon, the county seat, and one at Centerville, a village about fifteen miles south of Buckhannon. The Buckhannon school employs four teachers, and had, during the last session, an attendance of two hundred and two pupils. The Centerville school employs two teachers, with an attendance of eighty-four pupils.

The colored school at Buckhannon, was well attended, and the progress of the pupils, everything considered, was satisfactory. Arrangements are being made for organizing a colored school in Union District, in which a fund for colored pupils has been accumulating for some years.

During the past winter I visited all the schools in the county, and found most of them in good condition, many being models of the best kind.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

Geo C Allman	1	Miss Ida L Hooker	4
G H Anderson	2	P D Hamrah	2
*D N Armstrong	2	T E Hodges	1
Coleman Abbott	5	G A Helmick	3
J D Adkison	3	John A Hess	1
S P Brooks	1	John P Kelley	3
Miss Alice Brown	2	J W Kidd	1
Miss Hattie Buntun	1	Wm B Lynch	1
E R Bacchus	3	Paris Lewis	3
Miss Ada M Burr	1	E B Lanham	3
Miss Meta Balsley	2	Joseph Little	4
R C Brake	5	A C Linger	2
Miss Laura S Brooks	3	Geo R Latham	1
O W Bunner	2	Lloyd B Lovett	2
Geo W Beer	1	A J Marple	1
Miss Lizzie Bartlett	4	Miss Ida M Moore	3
Miss E M Bartlett	2	O A Mosby	2
Miss Lmie Bartlett	3	Martin Madden	3
A S Bond	3	F P Madden	2
G E Bosely	4	Miss Celia Morgan	2
Eugene Brown	1	Miss L E Morgan	1
Geo M Curtis	3	Miss Flora A Moore	3
M F Cutright	3	S N McCann	4
S P Cutright	3	W T Napier	1
Miss Jerusha Cutright	3	B F P Ours	2
Miss Cordelia Carter	4	James H Ours	3
C A Dunnington	2	J O Osborne	3
J S Douglass	1	Miss Belle Moore	2
Robt A Durnall	1	Miss Emmie Perry	1
G W Daniels	2	David Poe	3
Mrs L A Doyle	3	W H Queen	2
Miss Jennie E Dean	3	C N Queen	2
Ira L Earit	2	J C Reese	2
Geo W Eskew	3	C L Rohrhaugh	2
J S Fultz	2	H M Strader	4
*Mrs M E Freeman	1	George W Smith	1
S D Gould	2	N W Senhauser	2
Miss A E Gould	4	F P Sexton	1
J Loomis Gould	2	Miss M J Totten	3
Mrs R R Gould	2	W E Talbot	2

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES—Continued.

Miss Lura T Gould.....	2	J V Tenney.....	2
Miss Rhoda E Gould.....	1	F V Taylor.....	1
Mrs Lydia K Gould.....	3	J E Van Gilder.....	2
J R Grove.....	4	W C Van Gilder.....	2
E A Hamner.....	2	G D Westfall.....	1
Thos H Hawkins.....	3	W H Woodley.....	3

WAYNE COUNTY—JOSEPH M. MARCUM, *Sup't.*

I have the honor to report that the Free Schools of Wayne county are progressing rapidly. Teachers appear to be discharging their duties with more energy than has been exhibited by them in former years.

The system of holding Institutes seems to work admirably, and teachers manifest great interest in them, especially young teachers

We have been able to raise our scale of examination from 85 per cent. to 90.

The day seems to be dawning in which our people will fully appreciate the benefits to be derived from the Free School System.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

F M Keyser.....	1	J B Bartram.....	3
N B Ferguson.....	2	S W Porter.....	2
Tilmon Adkins.....	3	J L Jarrel.....	2
Wm H Ferguson.....	3	S P Wiley.....	3
C E Hally.....	1	H Fry.....	2
J B Ferguson.....	1	G Frasher.....	2
G W Frasher.....	4	J S S Porter.....	2
R P Hanly.....	2	J M Park.....	2
Julia Newman.....	2	John Park.....	2
P F Ball.....	4	Sarah Steel.....	2
M F Ball.....	4	Lizzie Bell.....	1
Mary Kelly.....	1	Wm Dean.....	1
E Garret.....	1	J J Mason.....	1
Mary Bloss.....	1	J F H Thornburg.....	2
Maggie Stevens.....	2	S J Wilson.....	3
Betty Maupins.....	1	L G McClure.....	2
Wayne Lycans.....	2	M V Jarrel.....	3
A Mansfield.....	1	Moses Rife.....	1
Anna Spurlock.....	1	R F Bramer.....	2
Clara Ferguson.....	1	H W Lambert.....	2
Wayne Jarrel.....	2	J E Bramer.....	2
C J Hazard.....	2	J W Pinkerman.....	3
Wm Odell.....	3	J L Kirk.....	2
A McComas.....	2	W T Can.....	3
Nancy Hensley.....	4	Hugh Wilhs.....	2
B Newman.....	1	Sallie Workman.....	2
Ella Porter.....	2	H B Stratton.....	2
Reba White.....	2	Ira Smith.....	2
J S Smith.....	2	E D Damron.....	1
T C Sullivan.....	2	R G Damron.....	1
A Fezel.....	2	F M Smith.....	3
Carrie Ramsdell.....	1	Eanna Wellman.....	2
J M Fuller.....	3	Dick Well nan.....	2
Sarah Sifes.....	3	C F Butler.....	1
H H Dean.....	1	John Laidley.....	3
O T Moore.....	3	Hamilton Bloss.....	3
Lizze Frazelle.....	1	W H Eplin.....	3
Lizzie Wright.....	2	Chapman Fry.....	2
C Prichard.....	3	S S Rigg.....	2
M Shannon.....	3	Mary Miller.....	1
Horace Fuller.....	1	Jessie Miller.....	1
J P Keyser.....	1	H C Dunkle.....	2
Carrie Holt.....	1	Wm Harrison.....	2
Mary Smith.....	3	Nettie Smith.....	3
Nancy Hattan.....	3	Lizzie Sprouse.....	2
Cora Sanns.....	2	J B Shepard.....	2
C F Johnson.....	3	James H Massie.....	3
Wm Ferguson.....	2	G W Ferguson.....	2
G W Frasher.....	2	G W Frasher.....	1
Wm Copley.....	2	Polly Finley.....	3
Lazarus Marcum.....	1		

WEBSTER COUNTY.—N. W. CLIFTON, *Sup't.*

It is a source of regret to me, that our schools have not been taught the full period of four months. Owing to the fact that some of the citizens of this county are still opposed to the Free School system, the district boards failed to lay a sufficient levy to carry on the schools four months. I think that when the Board of Education is authorized by the majority of the people to lay the required levy, they should do so, as less than a four months school generally proves unsatisfactory.* Generally those who are opposed to the Free School system are not true lovers of popular education.

Thus is injustice done to the teachers of this county, as well as injury to the school system, by the Boards of Education, by not paying such salaries as would justify teachers to devoting their time and talents to this work.

In the past year twenty-five primary schools were taught in this county; and although the average daily attendance was not very good, I am pleased to be able to speak more favorably of them than heretofore.

My report shows the enumeration of youth to be nine hundred and thirty-seven; of this number only four hundred and ninety-six attend school, while the average daily attendance is but two hundred and ninety-four, or but a little more than thirty-one per cent of the youth in the county. Number studying each branch: Orthography, 387; reading, 247; writing, 115; arithmetic, 84; geography, 20; English grammar, 27; History, 16. Visits by the county superintendent, 19; by other officers, 118. Total 137. Aggregate value of school property, \$2,305.00. (?) Total receipts for all purposes, \$2,852.45. Total expenditures for all purposes, \$2,437.80.

*The school law provides that they may be compelled by *mandamus*.—State Superintendent.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

C W Benedum.....	1	Cyrus Poling.....	1
J Bartlett.....	1	A F Swentzel.....	1
B D Hutchison.....	1	J H Hardway.....	2
H C Shock.....	1	A T Swentzel.....	2
J R Shock.....	1	W P Morton.....	2
J L Cochran.....	1	T J Myers.....	2
Wallace Collister.....	1	Mrs M E Salisbury.....	2
Miss Maggie Arthur.....	1	Miss M A Hickman.....	2
Miss Verna Webb.....	1	V S Lynch.....	2
W R Stanard.....	1	W A Arthur.....	2
A W Cogar.....	1	T F Hosey.....	2
J C H Cogar.....	1	G Rexroad.....	2
A J Salisbury.....	1	A G Burns.....	3
Miss Ella Brake.....	1	Levi Skidmore.....	3
Mrs P S Lynch.....	1	F B Hosey.....	3
Miss Annie Cogar.....	1		

WETZEL COUNTY.—GEO. K. FRANKS, *Sup't.*

I visited the schools last winter while they were in session, and I found the great majority of them progressing finely. I made it a part of my business to spend at least one half day in each school, and had the teacher go on with his daily routine and hear his recitations.

I found the most of the teachers live and progressive, manifesting great interest as well as pleasure, in their profession.

There is a great lack of good school houses in this county. In Grant District some of the houses are but miserable log huts, not fit for any purpose, much less for a school house. Proctor and Centre Districts have the best houses, and they also secure the best teachers, as a general thing. There are in process of erection quite a number of good houses in each of the districts, and I think in the course of two or three years will be supplied with comfortable houses.

I think that the teachers of Wetzel county will compare favorably with the teachers of her sister counties. They are all alive to the interests of education, and anxious to improve themselves. We have a Teacher's Association which is a credit not only to the county, but to the whole State.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

John N Van Camp.....	1	T A J Lowe	1
J C Snodgrass.....	2	John P Hardin.....	2
W E Pearson.....	3	S L Jolliff	2
J W McIntire.....	2	Oliver Cook.....	2
Ervin Burge	1	D N McIntire.....	2
Elihu Taylor.....	2	Julia Lavelle.....	1
Mary L Barr.....	2	Samuel Earl.....	1
Maggie E Snodgrass.....	1	Emma Haught.....	2
Mollie E Abersold.....	2	Annie Martin.....	1
Jacob B Moore.....	1	Emily Philips.....	2
Mattie Ely.....	4	G W Loudenslager.....	2
W W Bowser	1	Ellis Dulany.....	2
Michael Brast.....	2	J T Toothman.....	2
Louella Nesbitt.....	2	I N Crawford.....	2
G D Sibert.....	3	D W Shields	2
H J Richardson.....	3	W P Morris.....	2
W C Brown.....	1	J P Clutter	1
W R Homan.....	2	F M Long.....	3
E A Williams.....	2	H Hillock.....	1
Brent Shriver.....	2	J W Deberry.....	3
B B Newman.....	1	James W Monroe.....	1
I A Richardson.....	2	I R Wilson.....	2
Jesse Morris.....	3	Silas Woodruff	3
W P Fernell.....	1	Alfred Lemley.....	3
Charles H Lehu.....	2	W S Scott	2
J E M Howard.....	2	William Dolen.....	3
James M Ashcraft.....	2	Henry M Conklin.....	2
Samuel Ressigger... ..	2	James A Coleman.....	2
F M Wayman.....	1	J P Brock.....	2
A N Wade.....	3	W S Brock	2
S C Van Camp.....	2	Joseph Gordon.....	2
W M Lowrey.....	3	W C Hanen	2
Maggie Martin	2	W E Giblin.....	2
A T George.....	2	J. V. Giblin	2
Louisa E George.....	1	T J Hoskinson.....	2
M E Salley.....	1	A G Shriver	2
William Carolin.....	2	J L Booher	2
Samuel Stout.....	3	E R Steed.....	2
J M Monroe.....	2	L S Moffitt.....	2
J W Johnston.....	3	S G Ash.....	2
Z T Stewart.....	1	Mary A Hurdley	2
Maggie Meighen.....	1	R L Sharpnack.....	2
Mary McGuffin.....	1	E P Lowman.....	2
W M Meighen.....	2	J D Russell.....	1
D W Elder.....	4	Frederick Sutter	3
Gemina Robinson	1	Marion Taylor... ..	3
Stephen A Carney	1	Maggie B Marsh.....	3
Lindsay Merrill	1	George H Mason.....	4
John U Morgan.....	1	Friend Palmer	2
F M Watson	2	Mary A Green	2
Charles J Lavelle.....	1	J F Kirkland.....	3
Theo B Glover.....	1	W F Shuman	3
Ellie Glover.....	1	J W McIntire.....	1
Jere Cross	2	D N McIntire.....	2
Thomas M Haskins.....	2	Elihu Taylor.....	1
Zifiah Ice	2	J E M Howard.....	8

WIRT COUNTY—D. C. CASTO, *Sup't.*

I take pleasure in submitting my fourth annual report of the condition of the schools of Wirt County. I cannot make as flattering report of the schools as I would like, yet I am able to say that we have made some progress. We have been steadily advancing from year to year, in the Free School work, perhaps no year in the history of the schools in the County, was marked with more solid improvement than the one which has just closed. Our schools are on a firmer basis than ever before; teaching partook less of the experimental and more of the professional type of teaching; the teachers had more experience, and consequently, there was more system in the methods of school management. In my visits to the schools, I found more uniformity in methods, and seemingly a better understanding of the duties of the teacher. There was not that gradual increase in the percentage of attendance which has been characteristic of the schools of Wirt, for the last three years. There are now enumerated two thousand, three hundred and sixty-six youths, between six and twenty-one years of age, of these one thousand, four hundred and thirty-eight attended school, and made an average of one thousand and seventy-four, showing that only sixty-one per cent. of the children attend, and that there is only an average per cent. of forty-two of the enumeration. There is evidently some remedy for this. The schools fail to reach the class for which they are intended. I am in favor of a law that will bring these children into school who are deprived of this inestimable privilege, by the careless indifference of ignorant parents. If this is compulsory law, then let us have compulsion. Wirt County spent in the payment of teachers during the past year, \$6,126.12, and in the expenses incident to the schools \$1,443.68, making a total of \$7,569.81, to defray the expenses of educating one thousand and seventy-four youths, whereas, the entire youth of the County could have been instructed for the same sum, thereby reducing the cost per scholar over one half. Each sub-district in the County, had on an average, a little over four months school, some had more and a few had less. The County schools generally commenced about the first of November, and closed about the middle or last of March. We have never had a year of more perfect and complete harmony than the one which has just closed, the teachers had no reason to complain, for they were fully sustained in all they did by the patrons of the school, and the parents could not complain, for the teachers wholly did their work and were prompt in their discharge of duty.

The Sheriff of the County came fully up to the requirement of the law, and in most cases, promptly paid the teacher's orders when presented; pecuniarily the teacher had no reason to complain, unless perhaps, in some of the districts where the salary was reduced too much by the Boards of Education.

We now have about a sufficiency of teachers residing in the County to supply the schools, heretofore we have been in a measure dependent on neighboring counties, and have had a few teachers from Ohio. The High School at Wirt Court House, and the Graded School, at Burning Springs, are each doing a good work for the common schools of the County, beside offering great advantages to the young people

who reside in the vicinity of each. - The Elizabeth school sends out one, and the Burning Springs school sends out five young teachers this year, whose qualifications are in many respects, superior to the qualifications of the older teachers.

Few of our teachers attend the Normal schools of the State, preferring to attend these schools near home, rather than to go to others. The Elizabeth School was in session six months during the past year, with an average attendance of seventy-seven; and the Burning Springs School, nine months, with an average attendance of seventy students.

I held three sessions of the County Teachers' Institute, ten days in all, which were liberally attended by the teachers, and much good accomplished. The good accomplished in these Institutes was seen in the system and uniformity in the methods of teaching introduced into the common schools. The Peabody Institute, held at Burning Springs, in July, by Prof. H. N. Mertz, was a success and did much to improve the teaching ability of the teachers who attended.

I visited all the schools in the County, except five in Clay District. I usually spent from two to four hours in each school, in examining and hearing classes and noting the methods of classes and general management of the teachers. I found the schools all doing as well as I could expect under the circumstances.

The Boards of Education made the annual settlement with the Sheriff at the time required by law. The districts are now all out of debt, except Clay, which still has a small balance of the large debt it contracted in building school houses and Burning Springs (Independent) which is still largely in debt, and not much prospect of soon getting out, as the district can pay, each year, but a small portion of the principal after paying the running expences of the school and the interest on the debt. Property has so greatly decreased in valuation since this debt was contracted that there cannot be realized from the levy, more than one-third what was anticipated when the debt was contracted.

I have not the usual complaint to make of Secretaries of the Boards of Education. All of the Secretaries, with perhaps one exception, made the annual report at the proper time, and taking everything into consideration, I think made very good reports. During the year I assisted and advised with the Secretaries as to the proper method of keeping their books, and when the time came to make the reports, invited them to my office and assisted in making the report. I regard it as a mistake in the law that the members of the Board of Education are not paid a reasonable *per diem* wages, and would suggest that the law be changed regulating the number of meetings in the year, and allowing reasonable wages, say that of a juror. I believe that the Presidents of the Boards of Education should meet together with the County Superintendent, and regulate the wages in the different districts, so as to have more uniformity of the wages over the County. The evils of some of the districts giving high and the others low wages is patent to all school officers.

We have in Wirt County a fair class of school officers. The only wonder to me is that we have men who are willing to take such a thankless position and make so many sacrifices where they only have

a common interest with all other citizens of the county. I am under many obligations to the school officers of the County, for their zeal and co-operation in the work, and especially am I under obligations to W E. Hall and D. S Falkerth, members of the Board Examiners, for their assistance and valuable work in the Institutes. In conclusion I want to say that our schools are in a good condition with much encouragement of continued prosperity. We are apt to overlook the fact that much remains to be done yet before our schools will attain that perfection which we would love to see. We want to see its influence widening and extending until all the citizens are benefited, and it is made to effectually reach that class for which the schools were organized.

TEACHERS GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

Miss Anna Showalter.....	2	J H McCoy.....	2
D N Prewith.....	4	M F Wooddell.....	3
E R Fence.....	1	S K Sommerville.....	3
E G Franklin.....	1	E W Bowersock.....	2
C E Vandevender.....	1	G W Stevens.....	2
Samuel Showalter.....	4	A S Chevront.....	3
John Showalter.....	5	Miss Annie Showalter.....	1
B C Hammilton.....	3	D B Rogers.....	1
Frank McKim.....	1	Miss Jessie Hopkins.....	3
J B Smith.....	5	Miss Lucy Manning.....	3
Miss Addie Reinier.....	2	A Dulin.....	1
S F Wells.....	1	Noah Dulin.....	2
Miss Josephine Bradford.....	1	Miss M H Blaylock.....	1
Miss Mary I Thorn.....	1	R B Howard.....	1
Miss Jennie Hutton.....	1	A C Farnsworth.....	2
A B Davis.....	1	Mrs A C Farnsworth.....	2
D F Stanton.....	1	Miss Clemie Rice.....	1
W H Sharpnack.....	1	Miss Agnes Ruble.....	2
W T Dublin.....	3	Miss Anna F Rittenhouse.....	1
W M Lotterredge.....	1	W G Duer.....	1
C L Hall.....	2	Miss Malerra Selby.....	1
Miss Kate McKinley.....	3	Miss Emma Selby.....	1
William Stutler.....	3	Miss Rosa Memam.....	3
Webster Butcher.....	2	O L Rogers.....	1

WOOD COUNTY.—SAMUEL T. STAPLETON, *Supt.*

I have the honor, after much delay, to transmit to you my annual report of the condition of the Common Schools of Wood county, for the scholastic year ending on the 31st day of August, A. D. 1878. My report is not so full, nor so accurate as I had hoped to make it. It seems next to impossible to get an accurate report from the country districts; and I need not confine the inaccuracies to the country districts, for the reports of the Boards in our city and village schools are far from correct. This is owing, in some degree, to the small salary paid the secretaries. Incompetency in some cases exists. In some districts the labor of the secretary is worth many times the amount of compensation fixed by law. We cannot hope to secure competent persons in any branch of business without adequate compensation. Neither can we, in the matter of attending to the secretaries work of our Common Schools. This it seems to me, is of importance to the proper transaction of public business, as well as private.

Institutes have been held in compliance with Section 30 of the school law. I am not prepared, at this time, to make as favorable a report of their working as I would like to, from the fact that teachers are not in sympathy with the system, and not being interested, they

do not, of course, make them as profitable as could be made. This indifference is owing partly to the fact that teachers are so poorly paid that they cannot well afford to spend time and money to improve themselves in the art of teaching. The best teachers receiving little more compensation for their labor than enough to pay their expenses by practicing the strictest economy. It is to be regretted that the persons to whom the moral and intellectual developement of the youths of the State are entrusted, are so poorly paid. It is an error that should by all means be corrected, else ere long we will lose from the profession the best teachers. I am not, however, prepared at this time to suggest any well digested method, the application of which would correct the evil; especially am I slow to suggest it at this time when our people seem to be paying all the taxes it is possible for them to bear.

I would venture to make one suggestion, however, as to the more successful working of the Institutes of the State, to-wit: let a small appropriation of money be made for the purpose of defraying the necessary expenses of holding Institutes. The County Superintendent is directed to hold the Institutes, but no provision is made for expenses of every kind. There should be some well qualified persons employed to instruct in these Institutes and they should be paid.

The schools of the county have all been in operation during the past year, and I have the pleasure to report that notwithstanding the low wages, great progress has been made. I could not in justice mention any particular school, but will say that with few exceptions the schools have been all that could be expected. In this connection I desire to say that it has been my purpose to encourage the young men and women of my county and State, to engage in the profession of teaching. To do this, I have given my presence at all times, when that presence would operate to the prejudice of the schools. I have found it to work so well that now nearly ninety per cent. of the teachers of this county are its citizens.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

Susie Crichton.. . . .	1	Kennie Smith	2
Annie R. McIntosh	1	Annie Hatcher	2
M P Dabele	1	Annie Taylor	2
D McAllister	1	Flora Cooper	2
W Bibbe	1	Pierce Leavitt	2
D B Horton	1	W R Fagin	2
D Bennington	1	L F Keever	2
J W Taggart	1	Benton Clark	2
S D Cruik	1	W P Whitlatch	2
J J Nelson	1	E N Woodyard	2
E S Cox	1	G A Coleman	2
J C Black	1	Nettie Leachman	2
Orlando Woofter	1	Alice Maunel	2
R B Seffius	1	Cora Maunel	2
Geo K Scott	1	F A Jeffers	2
S T Boggess	1	Clara Cripps	2
Hannah Vinton	1	Alice B Nicholson	2
Lizzie Hinckley	1	Addie Gibbs	2
R B Musetter	1	Fannie Bradford	2
V W Leavitt	1	W P Maun	2
Alanson Mortise	1	Mary E Baird	2
H C Wigal	1	Martha Fisher	2
A L Martin	1	Maggie Anderson	2
R T Barber	1	Ada Richardson	2
G S Wells	1	Chas Wineberger	2

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES—Continued.

Emma Hall	1	W N Burk.....	2
Mary Coper	1	G W McVey.....	2
Amly Shvogt	1	Geo A Johnson	2
Georgie Pennybaker.....	1	Mary L Vansant.....	2
Bessie Pennybaker	1	Hattie Creel.....	2
Lizzie B Davis.....	1	Balser Gaugier	2
Fannie L Shaw	1	H S Dye	2
A W Judkins	1	T J Farrell	2
David Martin	1	U S Allerman	2
W W Robinson.....	1	A C Barrett	2
Floyd Sexton.....	1	Gertrude Lovitt.....	2
W M Straus.....	1	Ida Shepherd	3
A H Anoime.....	1	James Hielt	2
W O Butts	1	W S Mann	3
T J Staley	1	E C Walker	3
L C Page	1	Annie Watkins	3
Elizabeth McCreary.....	2	Clara E Marsh.....	3
C Fankhouser	2	Amanda Sindledacker.....	3
J W Reed	2	M C Whitlatch	3
Mollie Ryan.....	2	Mollie E Canaps	3
E V Taverner.....	2	Maggie Hughes	3
H J Ross	2	Susanna Anderson.....	3
Geo Wolcott	2	Mary Anderson	3
M P Prettyman	2	Isaiah Brothers	3
M S Black	2	Orella Chapman.....	4
Sophia Eacker	2	Cora Greece.....	4
Wm H Underwood	2	Birtie Rider.....	4
J J Lynch	2	Maggie E Shaw	4
A Ross	2	Viola Warren	4
Agnes Wineberger	2	W S Kever.....	4
J L Champs	2	Ross M Cline.....	4
G H Caldwell	2	Josie Hart.....	4
Daniel Turner.....	2	John Clemson	4
W M Athey.....	2	A R Shaw.....	5
Wm Junkinson	2	G T Snode.....	5
T G Rector	2	W Gillman	5

WYOMING COUNTY—JAMES L. MARSHALL, *Sup't.*

In transmitting this, my first report, I am sorry to say it must necessarily be imperfect, as it is impossible, in almost all cases, to obtain correct reports from the secretaries of boards. I have been to much trouble in trying to get these reports correct, but failed in many instances because of the inaccuracy of district records. It is true the greater number of our school officers are wholly incompetent and inefficient, owing perhaps, partly, to the fact that business men do not want offices which will not pay, and consequently incompetent, and many times unprincipled, men get positions, to say the least of which, they are incapable of filling with honor to themselves and safety to the cause they represent. I see no remedy this side of additional legislation. I find the greatest difficulties in our county growing out of the management of the boards and sheriffs, and that, with the poverty of our county, financial pressure, and consequently high or heavy taxation, is disinclining many of our citizens. So we find anti-levy men are multiplying and doing all they can to militate against the system of Free Schools.

As it has been suggested that we notice in our reports the amendments necessary for the better working of the system than that under which we are now working, I dare give my opinion, offering only the changes which I think would suit our part of the State. I would suggest that we have in place of the present board system but one commissioner to each district, representing and attending to the entire interest of his district; that the law required him to be a man of

intelligence and capacity, and able to give bond and security; that this board, composed of one from each district, be required to meet as often, and at such times as might be necessary, to transact all business, and that one clerk be employed to do all the business; and that this board and secretary shall be paid a reasonable compensation, such as would induce good and competent men to assume the high vocation of that of transacting business and arranging for the education of the rising generation. I likewise recommend that the county superintendent be required to act as president of this board, and that all settlements of the board with reference to the entire business of settlements between themselves, the sheriff, &c., come by some means under the supervision of the county superintendent, and he likewise be required to be able and apt to the business of his office. I regard that of three trustees unfavorable. Let us have but one, and let him hold the office longer, and let him be able to do the business of reporting between his sub-districts and for his district to the board, &c.; likewise let him be paid for his services. I would suggest the importance of a school treasurer in each county, to whom the sheriff should pay over the levy, and he (the treasurer) to receive and disburse the entire School Fund, and thus call in all legal school drafts. It requires in our county, with six districts, about \$200 per year to pay the secretaries of boards, and for enumerating youths, while a clerk might be had to do the entire work for perhaps \$50 or \$60; and good efficient commissioners would serve for about \$30 per year (to each), and have the enumeration made, and all other duties performed, and with such protective care as would save to a county like this not less than \$500 (over their wages), which hitherto has been wasted, and also do the worthy cause its merited honor. Again, if no more change is made, it is to be hoped we shall have more effective means to suppress the running little schools at so great cost, and, if constitutional, a compulsory law, to some extent. The boards, in some respects, have too much latitude granted them by the law. They do much injury on some occasions in fixing the salaries of teachers, in appointing secretaries and Boards of Examination. I would suggest the importance of additional legislation with reference to the teachers attending Institutes. It would be, perhaps, better were they not allowed to teach unless they attended some Institute each year, and if the time was not returned to them, as we find it with our present law, it would be better they had better be required to teach twenty days for a month and say nothing about their pay for attending the Institute. There are so many who cannot see the benefit indirectly accruing to the children (as it surely does) that their prejudices are raised to the highest pitch.

But I close in favor of every possible means being used for the perpetuation of the *Heaven born* Free School System, the blessing to the masses and the giver of good citizenship.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

A J Young.....	1	Lewis Cook.....	5
Henderson Bailey.....	1	James B Toler.....	4
John Howerton.....	4	Isaac Bailey.....	5
J J Gunnoe.....	1	Wm Canterbury.....	1
Lee Chambers.....	1	J S Poe.....	1
Wm Osborne.....	1	J B Ellison.....	1

A J Manning	1	Lemuel Goode	3
C H Canterbury.. ..	1	Philip Lambert	2
Daniel Gunnoe.....	1	J N Croesier	1
F P Roach	1	Tollison Leek	5
T J Cooper	1	R B Lester.....	4
Hiram Little	2	W E Echols	1
T J Little	1	S R Bailey.....	4
John A Cook	1	B E Wells	4
G W Thompson.....	2	Richard Mitchell ..	2
J C H Shannon	3	E A Smith	3
Rebecca J Marshall ..	2	James Cook	2
Mary A Sarver	2	William Trivett ..	2
J D Shumate	1	P P Lambere	2
Wm J Short.....	5	James Smith	4

CITY OF MARTINSBURG.—A. TEGETHOFF, *Sup't.*

As the condition of our schools during the last year has essentially been the same, as that during the year preceding, I beg leave to submit the report without further remarks.

TEACHERS AND GRADES OF THEIR CERTIFICATES.

A Tegethoff.	1	Miss Annie Colston	2
Wm Gerbhardt	1	Miss Jennie Riddle	2
A R Long.....	1	Miss Emma Snodgrass.....	3
C U Thornburg	1	Miss Rebecca Kratz	3
Miss Alice Wilson	1	Miss Annie O'Neal	2
Miss G L Winn	1	Miss Mollie Fiery.....	2
Miss Annie Madara ..	1	Miss Kate Ahern.....	3
Miss Annie Hill	2	J R Clifford (col)	2
Miss Jennie Alburts ..	2	Mrs E M Clifford (col).....	2
Miss Emma Hughes ..	2		

WHEELING CITY.—JOHN C. HERVEY, *Sup't.*

In submitting the annual statement of the Public Schools of Wheeling, for the year ending August 31, 1878. I desire in addition to the usual statistical report, to present the following table, showing the average monthly enrollment in each division of each day school, also salaries of teachers and cost per pupil for tuition.

SCHOOL.	Grammar room.	Division A	Division B.	Division C.	Division D.	Total average.	No of Teachers.	Salaries of Teachers.	Cost per pupil for tuition.
Washington	45.4	48.1	51.6	111.5	192.9	449.5	12	\$ 5,240 00	\$11 65
Madison.....	49.5	56.9	40.0	95.2	119.7	341.3	8	3,750 00	10 98
Clay	67.9	86.4	87.2	144.8	227.7	614.0	14	5,985 00	9 74
Union	48.0	60.9	65.1	131.9	272.1	578 0	14	5,960 00	9 96
Centre	49.2	42.7	88.0	53.6	146.3	379.8	8	3,775 00	9 94
Webster.....	35.1	70.2	88.3	85.5	166.3	445.9	11	4,880 00	10 91
Ritchie	56.7	73.7	97.2	163.8	245.3	636.7	14	5,985 00	9 40
Colored.....		33.4			42.4	75.8	2	1,160 00	15 30
Total.....	351.8	452.3	507.4	786.3	1413.2	3521.0	83	\$36,735 00	\$10 43

The day schools were in operation ten months. The evening schools were kept open during the months of November, December and January, at a cost of instruction per month for each pupil of \$1.00.

Our Teachers Association meets regularly every month on the Friday evening preceding the second Saturday of the month, making ten meetings of the Association during the year.

At the close of the last scholastic year, our schools sent out a graduating class of seventeen.

Their diplomas set forth their proficiency in the following branches, viz: Deportment, punctuality, spelling, orthography, reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, English grammar, U. S. history, physical geography, anatomy and physiology, algebra, natural philosophy, chemistry, astronomy, U. S. Constitution, science of government, geometry, rhetoric, botany and mental philosophy.

The pupils passed through the thorough examination, in a manner creditable to themselves and their instructors.

The commencement exercises were held in Washington Hall, where the class was complimented with a crowded house.

Each school is divided into five grades, viz: Grammar room and divisions, A, B, C and D, of which grammar-room is the highest and division D the lowest. Each grade may be again sub-divided. In the lowest or D division, teachers are examined in all the branches required in the State law, as they ascend the several grades, additional branches are required.

In conclusion permit me to say, that our schools are in excellent condition.

Teachers Employed, and their Positions in the Schools of Wheeling for the Year Ending August 31, 1878.

DAY SCHOOLS.

NAME.	Grade.	POSITION.	NAME.	Grade.	POSITION.
WASHINGTON.			CENTRE.		
Mr. Z. G. Bundy.....	1	Principal.	Mr. H. C. Shepherd.....	1	Principal.
Miss Ida Iveson	2	Grammar Room.	Miss Sadie Stout... ..	2	Grammar Room.
Agnes McLure.....	1	Division A.	Cornelia Hamilton	1	Division A.
Alice V. Oxtoby ...	1	" A.	Annie Moran.....	1	" B.
Sallie Robinson ...	1	" B.	Bella V. Godfrey.....	1	" B.
Tillie McDonald... ..	2	" B.	Minnie S. Black.....	2	" C.
Annie A. Johnston...	1	" C.	Anna W. Boyd.....	1	" D.
Mary E. Phipps.....	1	" C.	Jennie Patterson.....	2	" D.
Ada B. Greer ...	1	" C.	WEBSTER.		
Mary Arbuthnot ...	1	" D.	Mr. Samuel Boyd.	1	Principal.
Ida S. Jones	2	" D.	Miss Martha Harper	1	Grammar Room.
Emma J. Ellifritz....	1	" D.	Mary J. Morrison	1	Division A.
MADISON.			Sue E. Crumbacker ..	1	" A.
Mr. A. M. Stevenson... ..	1	Principal.	M. E. C. Lope.....	1	" B.
Miss Eva Rice.....	2	Grammar Room.	Ida M. Richards ...	1	" B.
Julia M. Wiley ...	1	Division A.	Dora Clohan.....	1	" C.
Eliza McKelvey. ...	1	" B.	Lizzie Clohan.....	1	" C.
Emma S. Snowden..	1	" C.	Lizzie Cross	1	" D.
Adah McClyment ...	1	" C.	Kate Todd	2	" D.
Minta Foster	1	" D.	Tillie Sutherland ..	1	" D.
Hannah M. Nicoll ..	1	" D.	RITCHIE.		
CLAY.			Mr. H. N. Mertz... ..	1	Principal.
Miss S. J. Mehollin. . .	1	Principal.	Miss Josephine A. Greenlee	1	Grammar Room.
Maggie Davies	1	Grammar Room.	Mary Baron	1	Grammar Room.
Emma J. Stephens.	1	Grammar Room.	Mrs. Josie F. Rose.. ..	1	Division A.
Mary A. Davies.....	1	Division A.	Miss Emma S. Anderson...	1	" A.
Mary E. Jeffers.....	1	" A.	Sarah A. Scott.....	1	" B.
Mattie Stout.....	1	" B.	L. Decie Hamilton....	1	" B.
Mary A. Bailie	1	" B.	Ella J. Stephen.....	1	" C.
Jane McColloch ..	1	" C.	Sarah McKinley....	2	" C.
Mrs. Miriam Dean	1	" C.	Ida Troutman.....	1	" C.
Miss Lizzie M. Swift.....	1	" C.	Annie E. Reeves.	1	" D.
Lizzie McKennan....	1	" D.	Sarah L. Callendine.	1	" D.
Annie E. Greer. ...	2	" D.	Ella J. Moore.....	1	" D.
Joanna B. Charnock.	1	" D.	Bella Kain	1	" D.
Mrs. Maggie C. Griffith...	1	" D.	COLORED.		
UNION.			Mr. Wm. F. Gaskins) ...	1	Principal.
Mr. James F. Snowden... ..	1	Principal.	Miss Harriet E. Carter... ..	1	Primary.
Miss Ella Dillon	1	Grammar Room	GERMAN.		
Annie Ewing.....	1	Division A.	Miss Emma Stroehlein.....	1	1st and 7th wards.
Ada Dillon	1	" A.	Mrs. Helena Gelink.....	1	2d and 3d wards.
Annie Jeffers	1	" B.	Miss Lina Zimmerman ...	2	4th and 5th wards.
Lizzie Downs.	1	" B.	Mary Arbenz	2	6th and 8th wards
Lucinda Sims	1	" C.			
Maria Ellingham....	1	" C.			
Sophia Davis.	1	" C.			
M. Lou. McColloch...	1	" D.			
Amy Chapline.....	1	" D.			
Mary Robinson.. ..	1	" D.			
Ella Updegraff	1	" D.			
Carrie Adams.....	1	" D.			

FREE SCHOOLS.

EVENING SCHOOLS.

NAMES.	Grade	POSITION.	NAMES.	Grade.	POSITION.
FIRST WARD.			SIXTH WARD.		
Mr E M Hugus.....	1	Principal.	Mr Dennis O'Keefe.....	1	Principal.
Miss Mollie Francis.....	2	Assistant.	Miss Mary Hughes.....	1	Assistant.
SEVENTH WARD.			Agnes Dillon.....	1	"
Mr H B Ferguson	1	Principal.	EIGHTH WARD		
SECOND & THIRD WARD.			Mr J H Cooke.....	1	Principal.
Mr J E B McDonald.....	1	Principal.	Miss Ella McCoy... ..	1	Assistant.
Miss Mary Vardy	1	Assistant	COLORED.		
FOURTH WARD.			Mr Wm F Gaskins	1	Principal.
Mr Jas F Snowden....	1	Principal.			
Miss Willie A Bradley..	1	Assistant.			